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Soviet, U.S. Scientists Monitor Explosion

LD1708191088 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] San Francisco August 17 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Sidorin reports:

A Soviet-American experiment for monitoring nuclear explosions was held at the range in the area of Pahute Mesa, Nevada. A nuclear charge with a yield of up to 150 kilotons was exploded at a depth of about 700 metres at the foot of the plateau.

The yield and parametres of the explosion were registered by highly sensitive seismographs and other equipment installed by Soviet and American scientists close to the epicentre and also at a considerable distance from it. One of the aims of the experiment was to compare the effectiveness of the two different methods of establishing the size of nuclear explosions: a teleseismic method by which explosions can be registered at a considerable distance, and a hydrodynamic method under which the equipment is installed close to the site of the explosion. The aim of Soviet and American scientists is to choose the optimum method which would suit both sides in verifying nuclear explosions. When the information is computerized, the participants in the experiment will compare the data they arrive at with initial parametres of the charge and by the degree of coincidence will establish the reliability and effectiveness of the methods developed.

A similar experiment will be made at the Soviet range in the area of Semipalatinsk in September. Such tests were already held successfully in Semipalatinsk last year and in Nevada last spring. They confirm that both countries have reliable means of verification of nuclear explosions.

The results of joint research that has become possible due to the arrangement reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit in December 1987 are of fundamental importance for the progress at the talks between the USSR and the USA on the question of nuclear testing. As an initial step the participants in the talks are to agree upon effective measures of verification which will finally make it possible to ratify the 1974 Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests (threshold test ban treaty) and the 1976 Soviet-American treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (peaceful nuclear explosions treaty). Then it is planned to start coordinating further intermediate restrictions on nuclear tests so as to achieve the ultimate aim, the termination of nuclear testing.

Experiment 'Great Success'

LD1808080288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0055 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpts] San Fransisco, 18 August (TASS)—Andrey Sidorin, TASS correspondent, reports:

U.S. and Soviet specialists described as a great success the joint experiment on verification [kontrol] of nuclear explosions conducted by them at the test ground in Nevada. [passage omitted]

Only the first part of the experiment has now been completed in Nevada, elaborated I.M. Palenykh, head of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva full-scale talks on limitations and the ultimate halting of nuclear tests, who is in Nevada. Its second and final stage, he said, will take place on 14 September of this year when an analogical joint nuclear test will be carried out in the area of Semipalatinsk, where U.S. specialists have already arrived. Based on the results of the two explosions, a decision will be made at the Geneva talks as to which of the verification methods [metody konrolya] should be included in the protocol to the 1974 treaty on limitation of underground tests of nuclear weapons. The determination of such a method will make possible the ratification of this treaty and the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. After that we should turn to the next stage of the talks—further limitations on nuclear explosions with regard to their power and number. One should not wait for ratification of the talks aleady under way. Our goal is the complete halting of nuclear tests, emphasized the Soviet represenative.

General Calls for Enhanced Security Measures

LD1708145288 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 17 Aug 88

["Europe: The Need for Broader Confidence-Building Measures"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 17 TASS—The confidence-building measures, embracing military activity of land forces of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and NATO in Europe, are being successfully carried out. The activity of land units has become to a certain extent open, verifiable, and, consequently, more predictable, said Major General Viktor Tatarnikov, member of the Soviet delegation to the Vienna meeting of the states, parties to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in a MOSCOW NEWS interview.

Naval activity and independent air exercises still remain major "blank spaces" in the process of confidence- and security-building measures. The air and naval forces have an unprecedented striking power, a big range and high target hitting precision.

The Warsaw Treaty Organisation and some other European states therefore believe that the time has come to take under control naval and air activity in Europe and the adjacent sea and oceanic areas, to make this activity open and predictable. And this work should begin at the regular stage of the Stockholm conference.

These measures should remind those applicable to land military activity: inclusion of major air and naval exercises into annual plans of the notified military activity,

notification about independent naval and air exercises and other actions, exceeding certain ceilings. Observation should also be carried out over air and naval activity in the sea and oceanic areas, the air space, adjacent to the European Continent, and also the landing of big units of troops.

There should be mandatory notification about the transfer of troops and military equipment to Europe by sea-going and air transport and, at long last, it is necessary to consider questions of banning naval exercises in areas of intensive navigation and fishing, limiting of naval concentration in areas of international significance, primarily anti-submarine naval forces.

Discussed undoubtedly could also be other measures pertaining to air force and naval activity, with strict control to be established over these activities, up to inspection with no right to refuse. These and other measures to cover the naval and air force activity, said Viktor Tatarnikov, would be a timely and quite logical step, particularly if one takes into account the Western calls for predictability, verifiability and openness in the military sphere.

General Comments on Break in Vienna Talks

PM1708103588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 88 First Edition p 3

[Interview with Major General V. Tatarnikov by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial office: "Reliable Security for Europe"; date and place not given—first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] There was a break recently at the consultations between the 23 Warsaw Pact and NATO countries on drafting the mandate for future disarmament talks in Vienna. In this connection, the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial office put a number of questions to Major General V. Tatarnikov, a member of the Soviet delegation at the meeting of representatives of the states which took part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Question: Why has there been a break, Viktor Mikhaylovich, and what are the results of the work which has been done?

Answer: The break was needed to allow the delegations of the 23 countries to make the last amendments to their positions, making it possible to conclude work on the mandate and to embark this year on all-embracing talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments throughout Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The consultations had previously agreed on the sections of the mandate on the aims of the talks and the control and exchange of information, on the preamble, and on the provision on starting the talks in the current year of 1988. In recent months and weeks, coordinated provisions have been added on the composition of the participants and the compulsory international nature of future agreements. A wide range of questions on organizational conditions and the procedure for holding future talks have also been decided. In fact this is the draft document on which basis talks will be held and measures will be implemented to reduce military potentials in Europe. This work must be performed so as to relieve future talks as much as possible of the "procedural burden" and to avoid holding a special preparatory conference, so as to embark on the jist of the matter in the very first days.

As a whole it may be said that the greater part of the road to coordinating the mandate has been traveled.

Question: But do any uncoordinated elements remain?

Answer: Yes, it must be said frankly that a great deal still has to be done—key elements of the mandate remain uncoordinated, primarily the topic of the talks (what forces and armaments will be subject to reduction) and the geographic zone of the reductions. Uncoordinated elements also include the name of the talks and the question of the principles for conducting the talks and implementing the coordinated measures. We must return to these questions immediately after the break.

But on the questions of the topics of the talks and the zone of the reductions, the sides have begun to understand each other's positions and mutual concerns better and more clearly. This in itself is important as a prerequisite for finding mutually acceptable solutions. The Warsaw Pact countries' delegations are seeking to ensure that the agreements encompass not only conventional armaments but also dual-purpose systems; that is, weapons which can also employ nuclear munitions. Mutual understanding on this problem now exists.

It is important that the other side, that is the NATO countries, understand our serious concern that no conventional armaments, including dual-purpose systems, or, as they are called here, "arms with other capabilities in addition to conventional capabilities," be excluded from the talks. At the same time the Warsaw Pact countries are prepared to reject the idea that the talks be conducted not only on dual-purpose systems but also on the entire spectrum of armaments. It seems that a balanced consideration of the sides' main concerns has been found on this question.

Question: That means that we can understand you as saying that the basic difficulties at the Vienna consultations have already been overcome?

Answer: No, there are still difficulties in coordinating the topic of the talks. For instance, the Warsaw Pact countries will not allow the talks to encompass fighter aircraft, but the NATO countries would like reductions to encompass these aircraft. The point is that fighter aircraft are part of the defensive air defense structure and

are used as cover for our political, economic, and military targets against strategic aircraft strikes. They cannot be used for a surprise attack and do not undermine the foundations of states' security. So why include them in the talks if, in the "aims of the talks" section, the sides participating have admitted that the reductions should extend primarily to systems with a potential for a surprise attack, which include tactical strike aviation, heavy artillery, and tanks, but in no way fighter aircraft?

Common sense should undoubtedly triumph—fighter aircraft should not be examined at the talks. At the same time we are firmly in favor of the talks encompassing strike aviation—together with tanks, artillery, and other types of conventional arms.

There is also some headway on the question of the geographical zones. Proximity of positions has been revealed with regard to the question of how future measures should encompass the territories of all participating states in Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. That concept includes the continental territories of the European states taking part in the talks and the islands and archipelagos of these states in sea and ocean regions adjacent to Europe.

As for the Asian part, here our side has proposed including in the zone Soviet territories west of the Urals, the Ural River, and the Caspian Sea on condition that the talks encompass Turkish territory, including that in Asia. The basic difficulty is that Turkey would not like to include its entire Asian territory in the zone. We believe that the approach in this sphere should be open and honest—all armed forces and armaments located in the zone should be included in the overall balance of the sides' forces. And, of course, the military bases of other participating states located on Turkish territory should be encompassed by the talks.

At the consultations we should also lend concrete form to the provision that the zone will include the islands and archipelagos of the participating states in the sea and ocean regions adjacent to Europe. It is no secret that there are military bases on some of them, and therefore island territories should be encompassed by the talks and should be under control.

Given the political will in the Western countries and particularly Turkey, it will be possible to resolve the geographical zone question very soon after the consultations are resumed.

Unfortunately, to this day the question of the talks' name has not been resolved (although, as recent discussions showed, the sides are close to agreement here). But the NATO countries are as yet not ready to include a provision on "armaments" in the name of the talks, even though they are essentially one of the main targets of the reductions. This position not only puzzles us, it also puts us on our guard.

In general, the situation at the consultations demands that the NATO countries approach the solution of the remaining problems of the mandate soberly and without preconceptions. In that case the delegates of the 23 countries could complete work on the mandate in September and begin talks this year on the entire spectrum of reducing armed forces and conventional armaments throughout Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. People everywhere now understand how overloaded with weapons the European area is, and how it needs to have its dangerous burden lifted.

Gerasimov on Ziaul Haq, Nevada Tests, Book Stock
LD1808115888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1117 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 18 Aug (TASS)—The USSR regards the Soviet-U.S. monitoring [kontrol] experiment as a real, albeit small, step, aimed at resolving one of the difficult disarmament problems, namely banning nuclear explosions, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, said at a briefing today. Recalling that the first of two nuclear explosions envisaged by the relevant intergovernmental agreement on conducting a joint experiment was carried out on Wednesday at the Nevada testing ground, he stressed that coordination of improved measures of monitoring is only the first step in the negotiations between the USSR and United States on limiting and ceasing nuclear tests.

Speaking about the death of President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan in an air crash, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that the election of a new Pakistani leadership was of course exclusively the internal affair of Pakistan itself. "As for the Soviet Union, we have always advocated, and continue to advocate, normal good-neighborly relations with this country, and development of Soviet-Pakistani ties and contacts in various directions, since we are convinced that it corresponds to the interests of the peoples of both countries, and to the cause of peace and stability in Asia."

Announcing Pakistan's decision to hand over to the USSR the pilot Rutskiy, who was shot down on 4 August in the region of the Afghan town of Khowst by a missile from a Pakistani Air Force fighter, G. Gerasimov said: "We are grateful to the Pakistani side for its positive solution of this issue. This testifies to the fact that where there is goodwill, other issues which may arise between our countries can also be resolved in a calm and businesslike spirit."

The USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman commented on the BBC radio station's report about withdrawal of books from Soviet libraries, based on a letter written to IZVESTIYA by a female reader. In the opinion of the BBC, withdrawal from libraries of contentious or hard-hitting works bears witness to the fact that "the idea of the need for censorship from above still remains." Deeming such generalizations unfounded, G. Gerasimov explained that some time ago the USSR minister of culture gave libraries permission to write off surplus copies of sociopolitical literature. The shelves are overloaded, there is no room, and sometimes the very same collections of speeches by this or that orator were present in several dozen copies. Therefore, permission was granted to write off surplus copies, leaving the minimum quantity necessary to satisfy readers' demands as they arise.

Olympic Games Security Measures Cited
PM1808091188 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian 7 Aug 88 p 1

[V. Geskin report: "Deceptive Quiet"]

[Excerpts] Let us look at the calendar and count up. It turns out that there are 41 days to go to 17 September—the day of the opening ceremony for the summer Olympic Games. [passage omitted]

Some 30,000 athletes, officials, coaches, and journalists plus approximately 240,000 tourists are expected to attend the games. They will be protected by more than 100,000 members of the South Korean security service. The fans arriving at sports arenas during the Olympics will have to undergo a triple check. "The organizing committee and the Seoul authorities are devoting special attention to security issues," the American William Rathburn declared on visiting the capital of the 1988 games. "What I have seen here has made a big impression on me." Well, Rathburn knows what he is talking about in questions of ensuring order, for he was in charge of the security service at the 1984 Los Angeles games. [passage omitted]

Nuclear Agency Report: Lessons From Chernobyl
PM1808104988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Aug 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "New Nuclear Power Stations"]

[Text] Vienna, 12 Aug—A total of 22 nuclear power stations were commissioned around the world last year. At the same time, construction of nine more nuclear power stations began in Bulgaria, India, China, and Japan. This is stated in the IAEA's [International Atomic Energy Agency] report for 1987, which was published here. By the end of last year, there were a total of 417 nuclear power stations operating around the world and accounting for more than 16 percent of electricity generation. In the course of the year the total capacity of nuclear power stations increased by almost 8 percent to reach 297.9 million kilowatts.

The report notes that the lessons learned from the Chernobyl AES accident "considerably expanded knowledge about nuclear safety questions, and in the long run this must be beneficial to the nuclear power industry." The majority of IAEA member states implementing nuclear power programs have confirmed their commitment to nuclear power, the document stresses.

United States & Canada

Republicans Officially Nominate Bush, Quayle

LD1808073488 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] New Orleans August 18 TASS—By TASS special correspondents Igor Ignayev and Oleg Polyakovskiy

On Wednesday the Republican National Convention officially nominated George Bush, the present U.S. vice president, candidate for the country's presidency. The same day the convention approved Senator Dan Quayle candidate for the vice presidency.

Placing Bush's name in nomination, Senator Phil Gramm said that the USA, with President George Bush, would amplify successes of the last eight years, and America's oportunities would be boundless.

Senator Gramm, as well as other speakers at the convention, lauded the service record of the Republican candidate: a Second World War veteran, congressman, U.S. permanent representative to the U.N., head of the U.S. mission in China, CIA director and, at last, vice president of the country. According to the senator, "George Bush is the greatest vice president this nation has ever had". He posseses all traits necessary for the U.S. leader, added the senator.

Such eulogies to Bush uttered all the time at the New Orleans superdome sports stadium where the convention is being held, is a component part of the Republicans' strategy to present their candidate as an experienced statesman, patriot and a "model American".

All speakers at the Republican Convention claimed that the USA had no other choice but to make George Bush its president, and his rival, Democrat Michael Dukakis, stood no chance of election. However, the results of public polls put into doubt such conclusions. According to polls, more voters back Dukakis for the time being.

PRAVDA on Senate Vote for Contra Aid

PM1708153188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Purse Open Again..."]

[Text] Washington, 11 Aug—After an intense debate, the U.S. Senate approved the bill on new aid to the Nicaraguan contras on Wednesday by 49 votes to 47.

The plan, prepared by the leadership of the Democratic majority in the Senate, provides for the allocation of $27 million in nonmilitary aid to the counterrevolutionary formations. On certain conditions they may additionally receive weapons worth $16.3 million previously "frozen" by Congress. For them to receive these weapons President Reagan must assure Congress before the beginning of October that Nicaragua has created a "state of emergency" in Central America by its own actions. In that event the question of military aid to the contras will be reviewed in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The Senate previously rejected by 57 votes to 39 a bill put forward by Robert Dole, leader of the Republican minority in the Senate, which provided for the allocation to the contras of $47 million, including $20 million for arms deliveries.

The discussion of the question of aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution took place in an atmosphere of mutual accusations between Democrats and Republicans. In particular, Senator Dole accused Democrats of wanting to create a "political cover" for themselves during an election year. The issue of aid to the contras is provoking sharp clashes among the Democrats. It is well known that the Democrats' presidential contender, Michael Dukakis, opposes giving them arms, whereas his running mate, vice presidential contender Senator Lloyd Bentsen, has consistently supported military aid to the contras. The Democrats have also accused the Republicans of trying to make political gains and of refusing to cooperate.

Shortly before the Senate vote, a White House spokesman stated that the administration supports the Republicans' proposal, but that if it was defeated the administration would be happy with the bill produced by the Democrats.

Increase Seen in Americans' Trust in USSR

PM1808100788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Aug 88 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Trustworthy Partner"]

[Text] New York, 12 Aug—The majority of Americans perceive the Soviet Union as a trustworthy partner. Evidence of this can be seen in the results of a public opinion poll conducted by the Yankelovich Service within the framework of the "Americans on Security" program, and published here Thursday [11 August].

According to 71 percent of those polled, the Soviet Union and the United States could sign a treaty on eliminating the greater part of nuclear arms by the beginning of the next century. Some 84 percent believe that the development of cooperation between the countries in the cultural sphere is absolutely possible. Some 68 percent of those polled are of the opinion that Soviet-U.S. relations are improving at present.

The overwhelming majority of those polled are in favor of stepped up collaboration between our countries in solving complex international problems. In their opinion, the USSR and the United States could, by pooling their efforts, help to settle the situation in the planet's "hot spots," including the Near East, wage a successful struggle against terrorism, and halt the pollution of the environment.

Speaking at a press conference, Daniel Yankelovich, head of the service that conducted the poll, declared that a series of important political events had contributed to the increase in Americans' trust in the USSR.

At the same time, the "cold war" stereotypes, which were implanted in their minds for decades, continue to have a considerable effect on Americans' attitudes. For example, 60 percent of those polled declared that they perceive the USSR as a source of serious threat against U.S. security. It is noteworthy, however, that the proportion of Americans holding this view has declined by 16 percent over the last 3 years, a period of radical changes in all spheres of the Soviet Union's life.

Joint Bering Sea Expedition Continues

PM1808090788 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Matveyev "Reportage on Soviet-U.S. Pacific Expedition": "Sun Over Dutch Harbor"—first paragraph is SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction]

[Text] In the article "Standard Sea" on 3 July this year, our newspaper described in detail the beginning of work by the third comprehensive Soviet-U.S. ecological expedition in the Bering Sea and the Chukchi Sea, which is to investigate the entire series of processes that determine the ocean's productivity and "health." One month later our correspondent reports new details of a unique voyage on the Soviet scientific research ship.

The Soviet-U.S. expedition, which is led by Soviet Professor A. Tsyban, has finished working the first site in the eastern part of the sea, near the Pribilof Islands (U.S. economic zone), and is now moving north.

The scientific research ship "Akademik Korolev" left Vladivostok 15 July and set course for Dutch Harbor (Alaska). There a group of U.S. specialists was taken on board 24 July.

The inhabitants of Alaska warmly greeted the Soviets, and many of them went on board the "Akademik Korolev." Mr Pol Fus [name as published], mayor of Dutch Harbor, asked for the following message to be conveyed to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's readers:

"I express full support for the Soviet-U.S. ecological expedition's scientific work in the Bering Sea. Scientific research of this sort will ensure the future of the Soviet and U.S. peoples inhabiting its shores. No less important than the scientific results is the fact that Soviet and U.S. scientists are getting these results together. The business-like scientific forum on board the Soviet ship proves most clearly once again that we can cooperate and live in peace and concord. The joint expedition is a convincing example of what successes the world's two great powers can achieve if they work hand in hand and not against each other. We hope," the mayor of Dutch Harbor said in conclusion, "that Soviet-U.S. cooperation will continue to develop to the mutual advantage of the Soviet and U.S peoples."

There are few sunny days in the Bering Sea. The voyage is taking place mainly in dull weather, and the fog is frequently thick. But... a pleasant coincidence! A bright sun was shining over Alaska the day the Soviet ship arrived. Nature began to sparkle with the unusual colors of the brief northern summer.

"Everything favors our joint expedition," U.S. scientist L. Kochman, professor at the University of Washington, said in an interview with our correspondent. "All-around ecological research is needed to correctly exploit and prevent pollution of the sea, which is rich in natural resources. This is why the third Soviet-U.S. expedition has come here. Its efforts are aimed at studying the ecosystem of the northern part of the Bering Sea and the southern part of the Chukchi Sea."

China

Joint Talks on Cambodian Issue Set With PRC

OW1808004488 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Gerasimov, chief of the Information Administration of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a press briefing held in Moscow on 16 August that the Soviet and Chinese vice [foreign] ministers will hold an (?open) meeting in Beijing on 27 August on the Cambodian issue. Rogachev, Soviet deputy foreign minister, will attend the meeting. [passage omitted]

NPC Leader Views Parliamentary Cooperation

OW1708052388 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 11 Aug 88

[Interview with Song Rufen, NPC Standing Committee member and vice chairman of the NPC Law Committee, by station observer Dimitriyev; date and place not given]

[Text] Exchanges of visits by parliamentary delegations are an important part of the mechanism linking the Soviet Union and China. Presently such exchanges are carried out mainly by the special committees of the parliaments. Not long ago, a Chinese NPC delegation, the fourth in 3 years, visited our country and learned about our legislative experience. The delegation was headed by Song Rufen, member of the NPC Standing Committee and vice chairman of the Law Committee.

With regard to the prospect of promoting Soviet-Chinese cooperation through the parliaments of the two countries, Song Rufen told me the following:

[Begin recording] [Song] The past few years have witnessed close contacts between the parliaments of our two countries. Comrade Yu Wen, vice chairman of our

Nationalities Committee; Comrade Ye Lin, vice chairman of our Financial and Economic Committee; and Comrade Zhang Chengxian, vice chairman of the Education, Science, Cultural, and Public Health Committee, have all led delegations to visit the Soviet Union. Such contacts, I believe, will become closer and closer in the future.

[Dimitriyev] You have visited several cities in the Ukraine and Georgia. Please let us know the impression you have gained on these visits.

[Song] I have personally seen the firm and steady steps toward reform taken by cities in these Soviet socialist republics. More importantly, I have myself seen the deep friendship of the Soviet comrades and people and the warm hospitality and goodwill they have extended to us. I have discovered many similarities between the Soviet and Chinese reform programs. And I wholeheartedly hope that the Soviet reform program will progress smoothly and be successful.

[Dimitriyev] Certainly, there are many similiarities in the problems faced by our two countries, and the methods we are using to solve these problems have many things in common. In your opinion, what effects will result, under these circumstances, from the exchange of work experience between the two parliaments?

[Song] I believe the exchange conducted between the two parliaments will have positive effects on our cooperation in various fields and on the enhancement of mutual understanding between our two peoples. [end recording]

Over the past 3 years since the resumption of contacts between the Soviet and Chinese parliaments, certain experience has been gained in promoting cooperation, increasing understanding of each other's work, and knowing each other's questions to be solved. Now is the time to sum up the initial results of such contacts and march forward along the road of cooperation. Among other things, the two parliaments will discuss a new meeting, expected to be held in October, when a delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR makes an official visit to China.

Friendship Association Continues Visit

Broadcast to PRC

OW1608114788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 14 Aug 88

[Text] Dear Chinese listeners: This station has reported that a delegation of activists from the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the China-USSR Friendship Association is visiting the Soviet Union. The delegation is led by Li Zewang, vice president of the China-USSR Friendship Association and former Chinese ambassador to the Soviet Union.

On 10 August, the Chinese guests visited the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. In this connection, station reporter Sergeyev has the following report:

[Begin recording] [Sergeyev] This is not the first time for scientists from the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences to welcome guests from China. The institute has maintained close contacts with Chinese social workers and scholars in various fields. The institute once again receives the Chinese delegation. Comrade Myasnikov, acting head of the institute and council member of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association, spoke to the guests.

[Myasnikov, in Russian with superimposed Chinese translation] Now is a good time to visit our country. Our country is carrying out reform work. Like your country, the Soviet Union is carrying out reform in all fields. I feel that today our two countries are breathing the same air. We have the same ideals—socialist ideals. All staff members of the institute, like the people of the whole country, have plunged themselves into the reform work. In accordance with the resolutions of the 27th CPSU National Congress and the 19th all-union party conference, we have set tasks for the reform of programs of our scientific research organizations. We have also made great efforts to develop friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

Our institute is a comprehensive research organization. We study various Far East issues. However, our main task is to develop contacts with China—our great socialist neighbor. It is China with which we have long and traditional friendly contacts. Our relations have entered a new period of development. We are very glad about this. As to the scientific research work of this institute, the current main task is to compile a book to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. At present, all scholars of this institute are engaged in this task. In this regard we will cooperate with Chinese scholars.

Social work occupies a very important position in this institute. This institute is a collective member of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association. Our scholars also actively take part in various activities of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association. The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association also relies on us. We are striving to turn our academic findings into wealth of the public of China as well as the Soviet Union. The scholars of this institute constantly write articles in the FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS on relations between the Soviet Union and China.

[Sergeyev] Comrade Li Zewang, head of the Chinese delegation, also spoke. He expressed gratitude about the warm speech made by Comrade Myasnikov.

[Li Zewang] My name is Li Zewang. I have many old friends and new friends. I left Moscow a year ago, about 12 months and 20 days. I am now the vice president of China's Chinese-Soviet Friendship Association. I am very happy to assume this post, for I can make some contributions to promoting friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples. As Comrade Myasnikov has just said, the friendship between China and the Soviet Union is in a new period of development. Both sides have done a lot of things to develop our friendship. However, I personally think that we can never say that we have done enough. I am convinced that there are still many, many things to be done by both sides with great efforts. Not only our older generation and middle-aged and younger generations, but also our future generations must continue to work for the development of this friendship. I wish to mention that the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences has done a lot of beneficial work in developing friendship between China and the Soviet Union. The Soviet and Chinese peoples are obliged to you for your hard work. At the same time, we have set a higher demand and hope you will further improve your work.

[Sergeyev] Later, Soviet scholars and members of the Chinese delegation held friendly and enthusiastic talks on issues of interest to the both sides. [end recording]

Activities in Leningrad

LD1708165488 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Leningrad August 17 TASS—A delegation from the People's Republic of China laid today a wreath in the Piskarev Memorial Cemetery which is sacred to Leningraders. The Chinese delegation includes activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. They are currently on a tour of this country at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries. The Chinese guests spent four days in the city on the Neva and are leaving tonight for Vilnius. Earlier they visited Moscow and Alma-Ata.

"We admire the heroic feat of the Leningraders during the years of the Second World War," a TASS correspondent was told by Li Zewang, vice chairman of the board of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society. I can say as a soldier that the example of the defenders of Leningrad inspired us in the fight for the country's independence during the war against Japan.

And we are now attentively studying the experience of perestroyka in the Soviet Union. We have what [as received] to learn from you, said the head of the delegation, who was once PRC's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR. Your country is witnessing great changes in the political, economic, and cultural life.

When in Leningrad we could convince ourselves once again that the Soviet people also show profound interest in the changes in China. We could feel that in talking with members of the executive committe of the Zhdanov district Soviet of People's Deputies, at a meeting with activists of the Leningrad branch of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. We were also accorded a warm welcome aboard the legendary cruiser Aurora, in Petrodvorets, the Russian museum and the Hermitage. This is a sign of the sincere feelings entertained by Leningraders towards the Chinese people.

I am sure that a strengthening and development of our relations will serve towards successes of both countries on the way of building socialism. To that end we, in common with all peoples, need peace. We support the Soviet Union's peaceful initiatives, the INF Treaty. The invigoration of cooperation between our great countries may become a reliable guarantee of preserving security on earth.

Sakhalin Oblast, Shenyang Sign Trade Pact

LD1708044088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 16 Aug 88

[Summary] An agreement has been concluded for the first time between the Chinese town of Shenyang and Sakhalin Oblast. The Chinese side will supply unique medical equipment and elevators. Our trade partners were interested in by-products of the timber processing industry and mineral fertilizers. An agreement between department stores was signed directly, without bureaucratic delay. An agreement was also reached on the opening of a Chinese restaurant on the island. Such an exchange of goods represents great advantages for both sides.

Taiwan Releases Soviet Seamen Held Since 1954

LD1708163688 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Singapore, August 17 TASS—Three Soviet seamen from among the crew of the tanker "Tuapse," which was captured by the Kuomintang authorities in 1954, arrived here today on their way home. Vladimir Sablin, Boris Pisanov and Vladimir Kniga, who were released by the Taiwan authorities the other day, after being severed for 34 years from the USSR, will arrive in Moscow tomorrow.

The tanker "Tuapse," which was on her way with a cargo of lighting kerosene from Constanta to the PRC, was unlawfully captured on June 23, 1954, by naval ships on high seas south of Taiwan island and under the threat of arms taken to the port of Kaohiung in Taiwan island.

The Soviet Government repeatedly took measures to release the Soviet seamen. As a result of these efforts 29 crew members of "Tuapse" were released in July 1955. Nevertheless, a part of the crew members were forcibly detained in Taiwan.

Macao Economics Delegation Received for Talks

LD1608131988 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Aug 88

[Text] Macao's role in opening Southeast Asia to Soviet trade was particularly highlighted by Vladislav Malkevich, president of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, during a visit by an economic delegation from Macao to the USSR. The Soviet official described the visit by the Macao delegation, led by Galhardo Simoes [assistant secretary for economic affairs], as a very timely since relations with China are improving.

Joint Memorandum Signed

LD1708211188 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 17 TASS—A joint memorandum of the delegation of Macau business circles and the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry was signed here today. This document lays down the legal basis for the development of bilateral commercial and economic cooperation.

The delegation of Macao held talks in Moscow with leaders of the USSR State Foreign Economic Commission, the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, of the board of the Bank for Foreign Economic Activities, of Intourist. The businessmen from Macao familiarized themselves with the system of foreign trade operations used in the USSR, with the Soviet Union's possibilities in banking, with the restucturing in the area of foreign economic activity under way in the USSR.

The leaders of Soviet Departments showed interest in the proposals of Macao businessmen for the development of commercial and economic ties with the USSR without mediators, including the proposal to create a mixed joint stock company for the development of Soviet export to the Asia-Pacific countries, the use of advanced Soviet technologies by enterprises in Macao and by joint ventures.

Macao is open to any kind of cooperation with the USSR in the area of industry, and we shall be glad to promote its development, a TASS correspondent was told by the head of Macao's delegation Galhardo Simoes, secretary for economic coordination (minister).

The delegation leaves for Leningrad tomorrow.

Northeast Asia

Yazov Greetings to DPRK Defense Minister

PM1808100188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Aug 88 First Edition p 1

[Greetings message from Army General D. Yazov, USSR defense minister: "To Comrade O Chin-u, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army and DPRK minister of the People's Armed Forces"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf I cordially congratulate you and all Korean People's Army servicemen on the 43d anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The Soviet Army's rout of the Japanese aggressor forces in August 1945 saved Korea from colonial domination and created the necessary conditions for the embodiment of the Korean people's desire for freedom and national independence. In close cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries the DPRK has confidently embarked on the path of socialist building. We note with great satisfaction that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our states and their armed forces continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of peace and security in the Far East and worldwide.

I wish you and all Korean People's Army personnel new successes in improving your combat skills and in struggling to achieve the peaceful democratic unification of your motherland.

With communist greetings,

Army General D. Yazov, USSR defense minister

DPRK Agrees To Delay Preliminary Talks

LD1708141788 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Pyongyang August 17 TASS—The KCNA agency reports that Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of People's Korea, told today by phone the president of the South Korean parliament about the North's agreement to put off preliminary talks to prepare for an interparliamentary conference between the North and South of Korea. Yang Hyong-sop took into account a request by the South Korean side to postpone talks which were scheduled for today at the initiative of People's Korea, the agency notes. In compliance with a proposal by South Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will send its five delegates to Panmunjom on August 19, said chairman of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

Sports Aide Assesses Seoul Visit, Security

PM1808084788 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian 16 Aug 88 p 4

[Interview with Leonid Arkayev, chief of the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports Gymnastics Administration, by V. Golubev: "How We Were Greeted in Seoul"]

[Excerpts] A group of our gymnasts has returned from the venue of the 1988 Olympics. They gave demonstrations and competed in a tournament. Here is what

Leonid Arkayev, chief of the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports Gymnastics Administration, had to say about the trip.

"When we came out of the international airport we were blinded by flashbulbs. I have never seen such a crowd of press photographers—there were about 100, or maybe even more. [passage omitted]

"Yes, people in Seoul took a great interest in us. And a very friendly interest, too. The sports leaders suggested various kinds of contacts and links and insisted on an extensive exchange of sports teams and specialists. Even our open training session all but filled the 10,000-seat sports hall.

"I was in Seoul 2 years ago and saw for myself then that the gymnastics arena was fully ready for the Olympic competition. The Japanese-made Olympic apparatus has been installed for some time, and we were allowed to train to our hearts' content. We were also training to get used to the sports center—after all, our team included seven male and female gymnasts, all Olympic competitors, and two rhythmic gymnasts—world champions Marina Lobach and Anna Kochneva.

"I don't like strident or highfalutin language, but if I were a journalist I would put the following headline in my paper: 'Soviet Gymnasts Conquer Seoul!' The demonstrations were accompanied by continuous applause. [passage omitted] There was no end to the public's delight. In short, we felt at home at the Olympic venue.

"We took note of the stringent security. It seemed that not even a fly could get into the sports buildings, the Olympic village, or the airport. The security service guys were well trained—probably as well trained as the dogs which search the stands before competitions looking for explosives. It was maybe a bit much, but we were assured that it is done to ensure general security, and we had to put up with it." [passage omitted]

Antiwar Meeting Held With Japan in Ordzhonikidze

OW1708055188 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] The seventh Soviet-Japanese antiwar "No War Oath" gathering is being held this year in Ordzhonikidze, the capital city of the North Osetian ASSR in the Caucusus.

In accordance with the custom of Osetian people, the Japanese delegation traveling by air from Moscow was greeted with three cakes upon arriving for the gathering in Ordzhonikidze.

The 116-member Japanese delegation is led by Shuzo Yasuda, a member of the Japanese House of Representatives. The Japanese delegation toured cultural remains of ancient (Skitay), observed the local fishing industry, and had some time for conversations with citizens. Hashiguchi, secretariat chief of the Japan-USSR Women's Seminar, stressed that housewives of Japan and Osetia have things in common, noting both have the traditional duties of guarding the cooking kettles at home.

(Mariya Kurundeko), a member of the Antiwar Council, welcomed the Japanese delegation with warm words of greeting.

On 5 August, the participants in the antiwar gathering marched through main thoroughfares of the city with placards calling for peace and cooperation. Later on an assembly was held with more than 5,000 people in attendance. The participants adopted an appeal for peace, and it was signed by official representatives of both Japan and North Osetia.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Commentary Voices Support for Indonesia's Policy

BK1808055588 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Indonesia proclaimed its independence 43 years ago on 17 August 1945. Our commentator Nikolayev writes:

Indonesia has taken a long path of independence. It has appropriately changed its economic structure. Before, it was an importer of raw material; now it has become an agro-industrialist country. The GNP is in the middle bracket. Indonesia is a nonaligned member which has actively taken part in solving international and regional issues. The official Soviet-Indonesian relations started in February 1950. The history of bilateral relations touches on every level. In the past few years, a tendency of Soviet-Indonesian relations has taken shape. Indonesian circles have endorsed the Soviet Union's peace initiatives concerning Asia and the Pacific region and the Soviet Union's desire to improve all-around relations with Indonesia as stated by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok in the summer of 1986 and in his answers to the newspaper MERDEKA in July last year.

Lately, trade and economic relations between the two countries have been intensified. The recent visit by the Indonesian trade minister to Moscow showed that the two sides want to speed up this process. The Soviet-Indonesian committee, in charge of trade and economic cooperation, will play an important role. It will soon hold its first meeting.

Progress has also been made in political relations. The two countries' foreign ministries have exchanged visits. An agreement was signed during President Suharto's visit to the Soviet Union, and political consultation is

being conducted. The two countries have similar attitudes on major international issues. The Soviet Union and Indonesia understand the necessity of ending the arms race and ensuring international security in Asia and the Pacific Ocean.

I particularly want to stress Jakarta's active policy in solving the Cambodian problem. As people are aware, Indonesia is among the countries which have initiated and contributed to the informal meeting in Bogor on the Cambodian problem. A few days ago, the Indonesian foreign minister put forward a new initiative by suggesting that the working group of representatives at the Bogor meeting hold its first meeting in Jakarta to study the real prospect of a solution to the Cambodian problem.

The Soviet Union agrees with and supports Indonesia's active foreign policy.

Near East & South Asia

Reportage on Death of Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

PRAVDA Notes Plane Crash

PM1808085488 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Death of Pakistani President"]

[Text] Islamabad, 17 Aug—Pakistani President Ziaul Haq died today in an air disaster. APP reports that a C-130 military transport plane on which the head of state was flying exploded a few minutes after taking off from the city of Bahawalpur in the eastern part of the country and crashed near the city of Lahore. U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan A. Raphel and a number of Pakistani military leaders who were accompanying Ziaul Haq also died in the disaster. According to preliminary reports, none of the 37 people on board the plane survived. The causes of the disaster are being investigated. According to some reports, the disaster was caused by a collision with a helicopter.

In accordance with the country's Constitution, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, chairman of the Senate of the Pakistani Parliament, has assumed the duties of the president. News agencies report that he held an emergency meeting with cabinet ministers and commanders of the branches of the Armed Forces. A 10-day period of mourning has been declared in the country.

Ziaul Haq came to power in Pakistan in 1977 as a result of a military coup.

Cause 'Difficult' To Pinpoint

LD1808044588 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 18 Aug 88

["News" presented by Sergey Fanton]

[Text] Was it an accident or an attempt on his life? This question is now asked by practically all observers who are commenting on the death of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in an air crash. For the time being it is difficult to give a straight answer to this question, as perhaps to many others. For example, how will this event be reflected in the process of solving the Afghan problem? Will the traditionally solid relations between Pakistan and the United States weaken?

We recall that together with General Ziaul Haq and a number of top Pakistani military officers, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Raphel also died last night. All of them were in a military transport aircraft which exploded immediately after takeoff.

'Sabotage' Not Excluded

LD1808113288 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 18 Aug 88

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Sergey Fanton]

[Text] A substantial part of the news carried by foreign information agencies is devoted to the death of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in an air crash yesterday. The president, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Raphel, and a group of senior Pakistani military officers were aboard a Hercules military transport aircraft which exploded in the air immediately after take-off.

The powers of the president have been transferred to Ghulam Ishaq Khan, chairman of the Senate of the Pakistani Parliament. Speaking on Pakistani television, he announced that the country's Constitution remains in force. The parliamentary elections set for 16 November will be carried out without deviation.

The possibility that the crash was the result of sabotage is not being excluded, the new president said. The presenter of the West German program ARD even suggested that the presidential aircraft collided with a helicopter or was shot down by an antiaircraft missile.

According to a BBC commentator, after Ziaul Haq's death, a political vacuum has appeared in Pakistan, a vacuum which must be filled as soon as possible. The most likely aspirant for this post is opposition leader Benazir Bhutto.

Gerasimov Notes Condolences

LD1808112888 Moscow World Service in English 1100 MT 18 Aaug 88

[Text] The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has, in a message addressed to the acting president of Pakistan, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, expressed their deep condolences over the death of President Ziaul Haq and the officials who accompanied him. This was said by a Foreign Ministry spokesman, Gennadiy Gerasimov, at a briefing in Moscow today. The Soviet Union, the Soviet spokesman said, has invariably advocated normal, good-neighborly relations with Pakistan.

Officials Visit Pakistani Embassy

LD1808123488 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 18 TASS—Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament) Vitautas Astrauskas, Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev and other Soviet officials today visited the Pakistani Embassy in Moscow in connection with the death of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

The officials signed the embassy book of condolences.

Unanswered Questions Regretted

LD1808101488 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 18 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov:

The death of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq of Pakistan in a plane crash yesterday has evoked repercussions around the world. A number of American mass media bodies now make predictions of all sorts as to the country's future foreign policy course.

The WASHINGTON POST expressed the hope that Pakistan would continue "close cooperation" with the U.S. administration.

THE TIMES of London commented on the death of the political leader as "bad news for the West."

We in Moscow, too, cannot but ponder on the effect of the president's death on the state of affairs in the large Asian country and on its foreign policy.

I'm writing these words with a special feeling: Tomorrow, August 19, a small group of Soviet journalists, me included, were to go Islamabad to meet and talk with the Pakistani president.

The Pakistani side had requested that the questions to be asked by the Soviet journalists be handed over to the president in advance. So they were.

We wanted to meet him because the Soviet and international public express serious and mounting alarm in connection with the Pakistani violations of the Geneva agreements on the Afghan issue.

We wanted to get first-hand information about the Pakistani president's view. Can it be that the Islamabad administration fails to realise that the violations of the Geneva package, besides other negative consequences, run counter to the vital national interests of Pakistan itself, a country whose people are committed to the ideals of peace and who seek to have tranquility and good relations with their neighbours and improved Pakistani-Soviet relations?

To our great regret, Mr Ziaul Haq will never be able to reply to our questions.

Now, on these days of national mourning in Pakistan, I would like to repeat: The questions addressed to the late president by our journalists remain. They remain irrespective of who will be in power in Pakistan.

New Pakistani President on Possible 'Subversion'

LD1708225288 Moscow TASS in English 2237 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad August 18 TASS—Ghulam Ishaq Khan, chairman of the Senate, who, in keeping with the Constitution, took over as president of Pakistan, appeared on Pakistani television this night.

He declared that the country's Constitution continued operating and that "the democratic process has not halted". Parliamentary elections fixed for November 16, 1988, will be held as planned. The existing federal and provincial governments continue to function. No changes are made in the country's foreign policy.

Ghulam Ishaq Khan announced the formation of the eleven-man emergency council, which included four federal ministers (Senior Minister Aslam Khattak, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yaqub Khan, Minister of the Interior Nasim Ahmad Ahir and Minister of Justice Wasim Sajjad), the chief ministers of Punjab, Baluchistan and the North-West Frontier Province and the governor of Sind Province, as well as chiefs of staffs of the Armed Services.

General Aslam Beg, deputy chief of staff of the land forces, became chief of staff of the land forces of Pakistan.

Since the plane in which Ziaul Haq flew exploded in the air Ghulam Ishaq Khan said he did not preclude the possibility of subversion and called the Pakistani people for greater vigilance.

Afghanistan Appoints New Defense Minister
LD1808085488 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 18 TASS—Colonel-General Shahnawaz Tani, alternate member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, has been appointed Afghanistan's defence minister at the suggestion of the Afghan Council of Ministers, the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR reported.

Lieutenant-General Muhammad Asef, commander of the First Army Corps, was appointed head of the Afghan Armed Forces General Staff.

According to BAKHTAR, several officers and generals of the Afghan Army have been promoted to higher grades.

Konduz Situation Updated; New Governor Appointed
LD1708202488 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 17 TASS—The situation in the north Afghan Province of Konduz, where armed bands of the irreconcilable opposition stepped up their activities in the last 10 days, is coming back to normal.

Governmental troops restored control over the province's administrative centre in a large-scale operation.

The rebels were driven out of Konduz vicinities. Their casualties reached 265, including 173 killed. Fifteen rebels were captured.

The governmental troops, who lost 40 people including 12 killed in action, seized large amounts of light and heavy weapons.

During the short-term control of the city, the bands of the irreconcilables destroyed the majority of government buildings and a number of private houses, and looted stores.

The destroyed facilities are now being restored, and people who suffered from the attacks are rendered assistance.

At a rally in the city of Konduz, people bitterly denounced the rebel attacks which put the lives of civilians into jeopardy.

The rally was addressed by Mir Saheb Karwal, member of the Political Bureau [as received] and secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Major General 'Abdullah was appointed new governor of the province.

Gen Zakharov Interviewed on Afghan Withdrawal
LD1708215288 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1914 GMT 17 Aug 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Valentin Dvinin]

[Text] [Dvinin] Material sent by our special correspondent Sergey Rybin will, I think, help us to better understand the situation in Afghanistan. Here is an interview with Major General Zakharov, chief of the political department of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. The interview was recorded in the vicinity of Shindand during the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

[Begin recording] [Rybin] Aleksandr Ivanovich, please tell us what kind of column is departing, and where it has come from.

[Zakharov] The column is coming from Qandahar, one of the hot spots in Afghanistan. It must be said that we parted with great warmth and friendship when we left this garrison. There is every hope that the state leaders, the PDPA, and the representatives of the Armed Forces will do everything, as in Jalalabad and Asadabad, to consolidate the great progress that is generally being made in Afghanistan in implementing the national reconciliation policy.

[Rybin] Aleksandr Ivanovich, on the trip from Qandahar, were any attacks made on the column?

[Zakharov] There were no attacks on the column, but there were instances in which vehicles broke down while fulfilling this responsible task. This is linked to the fact that there still is military opposition, a considerable number of people who want to break, or at least to find a thin spot, in our relations with Afghanistan. But we have things to do to ensure, along with our friends, the movement of the columns.

[Rybin] Aleksandr Ivanovich, the last question. The Western press still says the Afghan Army will be incapable of withstanding the armed opposition's onslaught when the Soviet troops leave. What do you think?

[Zakharov] You know, I have at one time or another been in the first column that moved out of Jalabad. We went to Kabul, and there honestly was a state of affairs where we were leaving Jalalabad—Jalalabad could have stayed on the side of the military opposition. But no, they fixed one date—1 June, then 4 June, and then it seemed any date. [laughter] We left them all behind. Jalalabad is still there, and so are Asadabad, Qalat, and Shah Juy. Troops of the Republic's Armed Forces are there, and there are no grounds for saying that anything there will change. As far as I know, from our comrade's recent visits to Jalabad, the situation is even better there economically; prices for

foodstuffs have declined approximately 15 percent. I think—and time will tell, of course—but our first results with our friends give us many reasons for optimism. I think that this will continue.

[Rybin] Thank you, Aleksandr Ivanovich. [end recording]

Paper Reports on Pullout

PM1708165888 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Dispatch by own special correspondent Yevg. Bay: "First Stage of Soviet Troop Withdrawal From Afghanistan Ends. The Convoys Head Home"]

[Text] Termez—Kushka is only just behind us and yet today we are in Termez. And between them—these two Soviet border crossings—there lie hundreds of kilometers in the combat vehicles of the departing convoys and on board the helicopters and planes which delivered me to the place where our soldiers greet their motherland again. I had seemingly already grown used during those jam-packed hours both to the sunbaked armor and to the fact that helicopter pilots fly pretty low overhead when maneuvering among the apparently deserted hills, "clipping" the grass, as they put it, to avoid presenting an easy target to any concealed sniper. Also, during takeoffs and landings, planes send out flares on each side to mislead Stinger missiles.

Fliers are the "aerial workers of the war"... While seeing off motorized rifle units, I could not but recall my meetings with our combat pilots who served in the most troubled province of Afghanistan—Qandahar. They are now already in the motherland, having flown there successfully, without loss, but how hard all those preceding days were! The squadron until the last moment continued its combat missions, transporting freight, protecting airfields, and, of course, providing cover for departing convoys.

As is laid down, every mission is recorded by the commander on tape. It was decided to retain the flight tape in perpetuity. On it, the commander, Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Ignatov, gives the order for the last combat flight along the Qandahar-Shindand-Mari route.

"The last?" V. Frolkin, aviation subunit deputy commander for political affairs, asked, as he repeated the question with an air of dissatisfaction. "We never say 'last,' only the 'latest.' Last is not a term we use."

This occurred shortly before departure. Since the signing of the Geneva accords, the helicopter crews' participation in combat operations has dropped sharply. But convoys of arms and munitions for the extremists have not stopped crossing the border from Pakistan, which has continued to breach the accords reached. V. Frolkin's subunit was given the task of transporting assault troops to a border region to watch over the convoys.

"From the air we picked out three vehicles on the road: Two of them immediately sped off for a nearby settlement but the third did not have time," V. Frolkin related. "Several dushmans jumped out of it and also rushed to the settlement. When we flew over them, they suddenly produced machineguns from beneath their clothing and began spraying our helicopters. One helicopter sustained a hole in its fuel tank, and fuel began gushing out. But the mission had to be completed! We landed and and discharged the assault troops, who immediately busied themselves with the rebels' vehicles. The operation was a success and a large quantity of arms and munitions were captured; the documents of a foreign adviser and a notebook written in English were among the things discovered. But now the assault troops, having done their job, had to return to base. However, how was this to be accomplished with a holed fuel tank and with heavy mortar fire coming from the settlement? But there was no other way out, and our men could not be left in this region. They were all taken on board and brought back to the airfield. But no sooner had they begun to unwind than a new order was issued: Another flight back to the very same region...

Several men received combat awards for carrying out this combat mission. They have now already crossed the Soviet border and been welcomed in their motherland, albeit perhaps not with as much pomp and ceremony as their terrestrial brothers in arms. "Workers of the war"—that says it all. And their comrades in arms who must execute the "latest" flight escorting the last units leaving the country remain in Afghanistan.

...Long convoys of APC's, tanks, infantry combat vehicles, and military trucks are currently moving along two routes, western and eastern, toward the border. Those stationed in the southern provinces of Afghanistan, Qandahar, and Helmand, are crossing the Kushka border river. Other units from Kabul and the northern Afghan city of Konduz are crossing the broad Amudarya. The "blue beret" mission of UN observers headed by Finnish General Rauli Helminen had just arrived in Hayraton, the last Afghan settlement before the border with Uzbekistan.

It is virtually impossible to get an interview with him in Kabul. Here he is more talkative, a genial smile indicating his good disposition. Yes, the observers are successfully coping with their mission. The withdrawal is proceeding according to plan, and this is undoubtedly helping them in their work.

"There are no grounds for doubting that the USSR will withdraw 50,000 or perhaps even more of its servicemen from Afghanistan by 15 August, in line with its commitments," Rauli Helminen said. "That will be precisely half the contingent. We receive all necesssary information on the withdrawal in advance from the Soviet command, with which we have very good relations, and our representatives then check the figures at the border."

[Question] "The Soviet Union and Afghanistan are honestly meeting their commitments, but what do you think of Pakistan's stance?"

[Helminen] "We received good news only yesterday: Our group has been permitted to set up observer posts in the Pakistani cities of Peshawar and Quetta..."

[Question] "Isn't it too late to monitor Pakistan's actions now? Many weapons convoys have already arived from there."

[Helminen] "The war has been going on for 9 years and our mission has only been in operation here a few months. Monitoring can never be too late. And it may now exert a stabilizing influence on the situation."

[Question] "Your movement around Afghanistan carries certain risks..."

[Helminen] "We must visit the regions from which Soviet troops have already been withdrawn as part of our official duties. We can see that the situation in most of them in the south and east of the country is on the whole calm. But in so doing," the general added, "everyone of us tries to avoid ending up where we could be fired on."

The short interview was over and journalists walked along with the "blue berets" across the bridge over the Amudarya.

The APC's, having rumbled across the long bridge, lined up near the stand. The crews stepped down and formed up on the square. Our fighters' ruddy, weatherbeaten faces are impassive, as befits soldiers, but their eyes betray their enormous joy. Everything is now behind them, and they are home!

M. Sharif, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and first secretary of the PDPA provincial committee in Afghanistan's Balkh Province, congratulated the fighters on the successful conclusion of their internationalist mission.

"You have honorably discharged your duty," he said. "The Afghan people thank you who have helped uphold the independence of the Republic against encroachment by the forces of reaction and imperialism. Having become battle-hardened alongside you, the Afghan Army will today be able to defend its homeland."

People's artist of Uzbekistan G. Rakhimova, dressed in military uniform and wearing a large number of medals on her chest, was present on the stand. Speaking on behalf of all Soviet mothers and our entire people, she thanked the servicemen for their courage and for honorably discharging their duty.

The servicemen left the square to the strains of a march, sending up clouds of dust behind them, and the combat vehicles formed up in columns. Tomorrow new convoys will be greeted there and mothers and fathers from different corners of the country will embrace their sons.

The middle of August will be a milestone: Half of our troops will have been withdrawn from Afghanistan. Our sorely tested fighters are being welcomed as heroes. How necessary it is to them that this attention should not abate in the future and that the warmth of this first meeting be retained forever!

Afghanistan's Future Viewed

PM1708160388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Aug 88 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko "Viewpoint": "Afghanistan: What Next?"]

[Text] The Soviet Union made a commitment and has kept it. That is a brief assessment of the Soviet Government statement which announced the completion of the withdrawal of one-half of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

This fact also demonstrates that our country is fully resolved to continue strictly observing the Geneva accords concluded this spring even though they are now being tested by the obstructionist policy of Pakistan. The most serious foreign commentators are now asking: What will Afghanistan be like when the withdrawal of the Soviet units is complete?

Political forecasts, of course, are a difficult matter, a risky one even, especially when they deal with developing countries and the tangled knots of regional conflicts. But the reader always expects journalists to describe not only what has already happened but also how events may develop in the future. For quite understandable reasons, Soviet people have a special interest in Afghanistan. Therefore, I shall try to consider its future.

However, it will be necessary to start by recalling the past. I cannot help remembering events of almost 9 years ago when I arrived in Kabul one frosty December night along with the first Soviet units. Everything seemed far simpler then than 1-2 years later, even though the situation at that moment was ominous and perhaps even critical for the Afghan Government, which was losing control of the country. Nevertheless, hardly anyone among us could imagine that this was going to be a protracted and agonizing military conflict which would demand so many grave sacrifices. I believe that more than one serious miscalculation was made at that time, and that even after that, the ideas of political flexibility and compromise, without which the normalization of the situation in a country such as Afghanistan was simply impossible, did not immediately prevail.

The success of the new realistic approach to the settlement of the Afghan problem which led to the Geneva accords is thus all the more significant. In May, when their implementation had only just begun, the view was put forward in the West that fighting in the country would intensify as the Soviet units withdrew and that the extent of government-controlled territory would begin to diminish. Three months have passed since then, and we now have an opportunity to analyze the real facts rather than to engage in guesswork.

As for the military aspect, it turns out that the government has maintained control of all provinces and that it retains the military initiative. This, of course, does not preclude temporary setbacks, but it is true in terms of the overall situation. Here is the view of Soviet General V.A. Vostrov, who served for a long time in Afghanistan: "In recent years the Afghan Army has grown numerically, been strengthened ideologically, and received the necessary combat tempering. All this enables it to independently resolve the tasks of defending the Afghan people's gains."

Now let us turn to the political factors, which I believe are most important for any country. There has been a great deal of debate in the press recently about the deep-rooted Islamic traditionalism in Afghanistan, which is indisputable, about the armed opposition outside and inside the country, the provisional government formed by that opposition, and so forth. The politician who does not know, analyze, or consider all these phenomena is a bad politician. However, whatever criterion you prefer, the present Afghan leadership looks to be the strongest and most organized political force in the country. Complex though its historical path and its qualitative makeup have been, the PDPA has accumulated 10 years' experience in leading Afghanistan and shown itself capable of developing and proclaiming the policy of national reconciliation oriented toward multiparty government and a mixed economy. Obviously, the potential of this course has not yet been fully revealed, but it seems very promising with regard to rallying the people. The PDPA is a party of the whole nation and its programs embody the ideas of social progress in the broad sense of the term.

The irreconcilable opposition, as it has now come to be called, has not been able to offer anything like this to the Afghan people. The "Alliance of the Seven," which embodies its "external" section, is strong because of its outside support, but the parties and groups incorporated in it either are regional formations or are based on certain religious trends. The "internal" opposition is, generally speaking, distinguished by the same features, although there are differences—it is closer to the Afghan environment. Not one of these groups can claim a monopoly of power—it is simply beyond them. It is also hard to speak of any unity between them. The "alliance" is shaken by the internal struggle for leadership. Once on Afghan territory (in accordance with the Geneva agreements Pakistan is obliged to eliminate all bases on its territory), the opposition leaders look likely to quarrel even more.

True, a series of worrying facts have come to light. I will give just one as an example: After the proclamation of the national reconciliation policy, some 150,000-160,000 emigres returned to their country. That is not very many, of course, if the number of people that have left the country cited by the Western press—3-4 million—is correct. This means that the amount of information on the situation in Afghanistan is still poor and that the influence of hostile propaganda on the refugees is strong. There could also be other factors making people reluctant to return home.

In conclusion, I would like to repeat that the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan represent a great success for realism and common sense in politics. Although in themselves they will not unravel the complicated Afghan knot, if strictly implemented they will rid the country of outside interference and give the Afghan people the opportunity to decide the question of their government, the future of their country, and its international status without outside pressure.

Afghan Gen Ziarmal Interviewed on Events

LD1808105488 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 18 TASS—"These days when the Soviet Union has withdrawn 50 percent of its troops from Afghanistan under the Geneva accords, I would like to thank immensely our northern neighbour for the invaluable aid rendered to the Afghan people and their revolution," Major-General Zabihullah Ziarmal, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and head of the Afghan Armed Forces Chief Political Directorate, said in an interview with TASS political analyst Sergey Kulik.

Major-General Ziarmal said the Soviet troops had not taken part in any hostilities since the Geneva agreements went into effect, because there was no need in it: The Afghan Armed Forces have the necessary combat readiness to defend the gains of the April revolution. As it is known, the Soviet limited military contingent has already left 26 out of 31 Afghan provinces. But nowhere have the extremists managed to establish their influence or reinforce their ranks by deserters. This has been proved by the events in Qalat, Jalalabad and Ghazni.

"What is alarming is that the outside hostile activity against Afghanistan has increased so much in the past three months that it has assumed the character of a kind of international intervention against the Republic of Afghanistan," the major-general noted.

"After the signing of the Geneva agreements, we, unfortunately, have not seen any positive changes in the policy of Islamabad and Washington standing behind it. The weapons being increasingly delivered to insurgents from Pakistan is more often American-made. One example of such 'cooperation' is military hostilities in Konar, involving military units of Pakistani tribal militia men equipped with the latest American weapons."

Ziarmal said the White House had not wished to use its influence on Islamabad to make it stop the violations of the Geneva agreements and close military camps and bases of the Peshawar 'seven' on Pakistani territory, in the first place.

"Leaving the Republic of Afghanistan Soviet internationalists did not suffer any losses. They saw grateful smiles and heard the word 'tashakkor', meaning 'thank you'", Zabihullah Ziarmal said in conclusion.

Herat Governor Views Reconciliation Process
PM1808100588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[S. Kulik dispatch: "Governor of Herat: 'To Heal the Wounds of War'"]

[Text] Herat—Avicenna studied and practiced medicine here, and Alisher Navoi reconstructed Herat's cathedral mosque decorated with dark-blue, light-blue, and white tile mosaics. This cathedral struck me with its monumental nature, the severity of its form, and the beauty of its finish. Beneath its vaults there developed one of the greatest achievements of international art—the celebrated 15th-century Herat miniature painting. Local artists most frequently illustrated with their masterpieces such popular Herat works as Nizami's "Khamsa," Firdausi's "Shah-name," and Sadi's "Bustan." From here the ancient caravan route linking the Orient and Russia went on to Samarkand and further north.

"During these days, as we say farewell to the Soviet servicemen, I would particularly like to recall the traditional friendship which historically evolved between our countries, between the peoples living on both sides of our border," Herat Provincial Governor Fazl Khalqyar said. "This friendship has been tested over the centuries. Therefore, our people say: 'The Soviet soldier is leaving, but the Soviet friend remains on Afghanistan's northern borders.'"

A thin, middle-aged man of aristocratic bearing, Fazl Khalqyar belongs to the generation of Afghan figures who have been brought back to the political arena by the government's policy of national reconciliation. He is nonpartisan. It was in the king's time that F. Khalqyar became a leading Afghan economist, and he held the post of deputy minister of finance in Daoud's cabinet.

"The policy of national reconciliation has opened up new horizons to the country and has enabled hundreds of thousands of Afghans to take an active part in their motherland's rebirth," he said. "I have repeatedly heard the comment that things are calmer in Herat than in other parts of Afghanistan only because it is farthest away from Pakistan. I say that is not the reason. Although it really is a long way to the Pakistani border, saboteurs penetrate as far as Herat, and weapons and ammunition are delivered. And the fact that Islamabad's ill will extends so deep into Afghan territory is the most graphic example of its violation of the Geneva agreements.

"But at the same time, I must say that on the basis of the principles of the national reconciliation policy, we are succeeding in finding a common language with many of those who in the recent past were considered implacable enemies of the Republic's government," the governor continued. "Forty opposition groupings recently joined the government forces. They include, for example, an armed group headed by Muhammad Umar which was operating in the Ghurian District. Literally a few days ago, after laying down their arms, more than 800 people who had long been divorced from peaceful labor returned to their home villages, together with 35 active members of this group. Talks on reconciliation with a further 90 groups are now being held. More than 65,000 people, including prominent representatives of the intelligentsia and trade circles, have recently returned to Herat Province from Iran. Instead of fighting, they will participate together in restoring the war-ravaged Afghan economy."

[Kulik] "How can you find a common language with an enemy of yesterday?"

[Kholakyan] "In various ways. We have set up 415 national reconciliation commissions in the province. They include authoritative representatives of our public who help people renounce prejudice and open their eyes to the positive changes taking place in the country. A council of elders has long existed in Herat—a jirgah whose members resolved a whole range of questions of importance to the local population. People who had left for Iran and refused to cooperate with the Afghan Government were permitted to participate in electing the present jirgah. During the election days, 18,000 of the refugees' representatives arrived from there. They elected their own deputies, who now sit in the Herat jirgah. Or take another example. We have agreed with the opposition leaders that schools on territory that they control will use the same textbooks that are used all over Afghanistan.

"In Herat, as everywhere, we are ready to heal the wounds of war. More and more Afghans are with us in this good work."

Afghan Premier on 'Subversive' Pakistani Acts
PM1808092788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
18 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Prime Minister's Statement"]

[Text] Delhi, 17 Aug—Pakistan's territory is being used for subversive activity against Afghanistan. Islamabad is rendering support to the Afghan armed opposition, is providing it with weapons and ammunition, and is assisting the transfer of members of opposition formations to Afghan territory. This was stated in an interview with the magazine INDIA TODAY by Afghan Prime Minister M.H. Sharq. These actions, and the bombardment of Kabul with rockets attest to Pakistan's violation of the Geneva agreements, he stressed.

Afghanistan and the USSR are carrying out in full the terms of the Geneva agreements and all Soviet troops will be withdrawn from Afghan territory in compliance with the accords which have been reached, the prime minister indicated.

Touching on the Afghan Government's talks with representatives of the opposition, he stressed that among the ranks of the antigovernment armed formations the opinion now exists that further bloodshed in the country is senseless. Seeking an end to hostilities in Afghanistan is the main aim of the talks with the opposition, M.H. Sharq said.

Fate of Airman Shot Down in Afghanistan Viewed
PM1808101088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
18 Aug 88 Second Edition p 6

[A. Gorokhov, V. Izgarshev report: "...The Aircraft Exploded: The Three Lives of Airman Rutskoy"]

[Text] On 4 August, our PRAVDA colleagues reported from the Republic of Afghanistan that Colonel Aleksandr Rutskoy had failed to return from a combat mission. At the time they provided us with no details...

According to reports from Western agencies, on 16 August military airman Aleksandr Vladimirovich Rutskoy, in the presence of UN observers, was supposedly "handed over" to Soviet diplomatic representativves in Pakistan. But from other, more competent sources we learned that Rutskoy is still in Pakistan and that the Pakistani authorities consider him a border violator...

PRAVDA wrote about Rutskoy on 14 February of this year, about his career, his development as a commanding officer, which was by no means a bed of roses, his forthcoming mission to Afghanistan, how he was hit by a "Stinger" missile there, and how, after being wounded, Rutskoy returned to duty.

Readers responded to this item with many dozens of letters. Each of them expressed sincere admiration for the military airman's feat. Party, war, and labor veteran D.V. Chulkov of the Buryat ASSR called the colonel a worthy representative of the successors of the soldiers of the Great Patriotic War. S. Bilyk from the city of Kinel in Kuybyshev Oblast writes that his whole family, having read about airman Rutskoy's career, wishes him all the best in the combat formation of defenders of the fatherland's air borders.

"My son Senior Lieutenant Mikhail Kuzin fought in the skies of Afghanistan alongside Col A. Rutskoy and his wingman, Sr Lt V. Goncharenko, a Hero of the Soviet Union. I know from the horse's mouth about the combat deeds of the 'rooks' [assault aircraft]..." These lines are from a letter from Sr Lt of Reserves B. Kuzin, a former Air Force navigator.

Letters from N. Ilin of Naberezhnyye Chelny, L. Zhavoronkova of the Moscow region, M. Bogdanov of the Karelian ASSR, V. Shulgin of Crimean Oblast, G. Tritinnikov of Alma-Ata, Z. Dementyeva of Pavlodar Oblast, N. Bruskova of Moscow, and many, many more stress that the life and combat deeds of sons of the fatherland like Rutskoy are a brilliant example for imitation by young Soviet patriots.

And now Rutskoy's name has cropped up again...

We are sure that every day and night after his return from Afghanistan he thought about that country, about his combat comrades, about the "rooks"... Afghanistan kept calling to Rutskoy. And then the officer made up his mind. Report followed report... The command could not but grant his request. So Aleksandr Rutskoy once again found himself among his fellow "rooks."

Fate, if you believe in its existence, once again prepared for the airman a test almost exactly like that of his first "Afghan" mission. But not quite the same. Tougher...

It is premature to report the details of his 4 August flight. From the information we have, the following picture emerges:

At the request of the Afghan comrades, Col Rutskoy, at the head of a group of assault aircraft, took off as evening came on 4 August to carry out a mission in the region of the city of Khowst. At an altitude of 8,000 meters his plane was hit by an "air-to-air" missile, fired, it was later established, from a Pakistani Air Force F-16 fighter. No report was made from on board the plane. No one saw a parachute; it was dark by then. The wingman reported to the command center that Rutskoy's aircraft had exploded...

It seems that the headquarters of the limited contingent and the airmen's headquarters came to the logical conclusion: The airman was dead. The searches immediately launched by Afghan Army subunits were unsuccessful. It was only a few days later that it became known that a Soviet airman had been "picked up" by a nomadic tribe

near the Afghan-Pakistani border. Apparently detachments of the armed opposition also approached the site where the plane had crashed. With our knowledge of local customs, we can suggest that the airman was "bought" from the nomads for presumably substantial baksheesh. That is according to one story. According to another, the airman spent the whole night making his way toward his own people. But in one of the villages he was captured by rebels. In short, the airman, who, as the reader has already guessed, was Rutskoy, ended up in Pakistan. Incidentally, according to the Air Force meteorological service, that evening a strong westerly wind was blowing, meaning that his parachute was probably carried eastward. What really happened, how he managed to escape when his plane was destroyed and to embark, in short, on his "third life"—that, we hope, he will tell us himself.

At Air Force Main Staff they showed us on the map where the plane crashed. The spot is on Afghan territory, about 20 km from the border.

In recent days, the name of our airman has appeared on the teleprinters of the world's news agencies. These reports contain much that is subjective, speculative, and sensational. No doubt we will have more to report about the circumstances of his latest "odyssey."

Correspondent in Kabul on Western 'Rumors'

LD1708180588 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] As you already know, the withdrawal of 50-percent of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan in accordance with the Geneva accords has ended. Right before the conclusion of this withdrawal, the mass media in a range of Western countries intensified their efforts to spread rumors that the Kabul regime will allegedly fall as soon as Soviet troops start leaving Afghanistan. Our own correspondent in Kabul, Aleksandr Skirando, reports on the current situation:

[Skirando] Unfortunately, these rumors are also floating around in Afghanistan. They have been actively blown out of proportion by propagandists from the so-called Alliance of the Seven that have been specially trained with Western resources. Before then, they had been loudly claiming that Jalalabad Kalat, Qandahar, and other cities and provinces had fallen. Now they are claiming that Kabul and the Kabul regime have fallen. However, these allegations have been and remain just words. Of course, it would be wrong to simplify the situation, for it remains rather complex. The situation in Velayat-e Takhar, Konduz, and Darya-ye Konar has become more acute since extremists transferred major forces. At the same time, Pakistani militia forces are taking part in military actions against government troops. They are using the latest U.S. weapons.

The situation in Konduz is indeed very complex. Events there are developing in a very dramatic fashion. Literally a few days ago, I visited that town and the province of the same name from where Soviet troops were being withdrawn. In those days, an exceptionally tranquil atmosphere reigned there, although it was known there were a large number of opposition groups in the province. In my view, the provincial leadership was too easygoing, relying on the humane nature of the national reconciliation policy. This is exactly the kind of thing which the opposition has used to its advantage. Touching on the situation in Konduz, Afghan President Najibullah addressed a news conference held in Kabul.

At present, Najibullah says, Konduz is under the control of the Afghan Armed Forces. As for extremists, they are raiding the city, robbing shops, and murdering absolutely innocent residents. When they encounter our Armed Forces, they immediately retreat. Nevertheless, their patrons call them protectors of the faith. What is happening in Afghanistan is affecting the whole world. In choosing the road of reconciliation, we will do our very best because we are aware of our responsibility both to the Afghan people and to the peoples of the world. The whole world is hoping that the Afghan problem will be solved, and it knows that this will be accomplished when the Geneva accords are fully implemented, stated Afghan President Najibullah.

Sub-Saharan Africa

RSA Military Activity in Namibia Observed

PM1808093188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent M. Pavlov: "Namibia: Pretoria's Maneuvers"]

[Text] Luanda—In accordance with the agreement between Angola, Cuba, South Africa, and the United States reached at the quadripartite meeting in Geneva, the Pretoria authorities have begun withdrawing their troops from the territory of Angola, the Namibian Press Agency (NAMPA) reports.

News inspiring hope of a just settlement of the problem of southern Africa has indeed, there is no denying it, been long awaited. But the fact that, along with this positive step, Pretoria is at the same time continuing to concentrate its Armed Forces in the northern and central regions of Namibia makes one wary. As a representative of the South African Army stated in Windhoek, the dispatch of military subunits is necessary to guarantee the safety of the almost 9,000-strong invasion force in Angola, which could, according to him, fall into a trap.

Moreover, the South African Army is getting ready to carry out soon the largest military maneuvers of recent years in the region of Namibia's sole deep-water port, Walvis Bay. It will last 2 months and coincide with the onset of the implementation of UN Resolution 435 on

granting independence to Namibia. All categories of troops will be taking part in the maneuvers. The aim is to practice coordinating action during the landing of a marine assault force and a simulated invasion.

The fact of the South African authorities' creating a so-called "rapid strike detachment," which has swelled the number of vicious death squads on Namibian territory, is noteworthy. NAMPA notes that the main task of such formations is to track activists of the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] so as to capture or kill them at a suitable moment. The new death squad has already begun operating in Windhoek and other large cities of Namibia.

The terrorists use vehicles fitted with license plates stolen from progressive politicians and public figures. The aim is to compromise honest people, incriminate them for crimes which they have not committed, and remove them from the political arena while Resolution 435 is being implemented.

Observers regard such actions by Pretoria as an attempt by the South African Government to prevent a settlement of the Namibian problem and stymie SWAPO's accession to power by transferring the leadership of the country wholly to the apartheid regime and thereby retaining control over the country.

Angolan Leader Cited on 'Tense' Situation

PM1708144988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Every Effort To Develop the Country"]

[Text] Luanda, 16 Aug—Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Party of Labor (MPLA-PT) and president of Angola, has had a meeting in Luanda with representatives of primary party organizations. During the meeting, in which 1,500 party activists took part, he noted the need to strengthen ties between the party and the masses and to galvanize the efforts of all party organizations in work to mobilize the population to solve the tasks of the country's socioeconomic development.

Angola's head of state informed the participants in the meeting of the current military-political situation in the country. This situation, he said, has been exceptionally tense for a long time. The Republic has had to conduct combat operations against subunits of the regular RSA Army, which has occupied southern regions of Angola, and against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) terrorist group, which enjoys the support of the apartheid regime and international imperialist forces.

Because the aggressiveness of the RSA military has increased since December 1987, Cuban troops in the country at the request of the Angolan Government have taken part in limited combat operations near Cuito Cuanavale (Cuando Cubango Province), the president noted. This has led to a change in the situation and forced Pretoria to agree to talks. Four rounds of talks have already been held in London, Cairo, New York, and Geneva. Jose Eduardo dos Santos emphasized in this respect that the elimination of external factors exacerbating the situation in Angola will make it possible to concentrate all efforts on the policy of national reconstruction and the socioeconomic development of Angola.

Denies UNITA 'Dialogue' Rumor

PM1708151788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondent S. Demidov dispatch: "Sincere Intentions?"]

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 16 Aug—Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has denied rumors that a dialogue has begun between the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). He again firmly said that the very idea of any talks with J. Savimbi's group runs counter to the country's constitutional principles.

The Angolan leader urged those who have been deluded by UNITA slogans to "break the chains" linking them to the rebels and the racist RSA and contribute to building and strengthening the independent republic and to its progress.

At the same time, addressing a press conference in Harare, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe described the policy of the United States, which is continuing to give financial aid to the UNITA group, as senseless. He also raised the question of how sincere Pretoria's intentions to extinguish the flames of the regional conflict in the south of the black continent really are.

Demichev, Malian Delegation Discuss Cooperation

LD1708165588 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 17 TASS—Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet received in the Kremlin today a delegation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali led by its President Sidiki Diarra.

The friendly conversation covered in particular the situation in Africa. The need was stressed for consolidating the countries of Africa in the settlement of long-ripe social problems. The sides also noted the availability of good opportunities for broadening cooperation in various fields, concurrence of views on the key international issues. [as received]

The sides were unanimous that the contacts between the MP's of the USSR and the Republic of Mali help towards deepening Soviet-Mali relations and filling them with a new contents. Both sides expressed the wish for broadening them.

Somali Ambassador Departs From Moscow 16 Aug
PM1808100988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
17 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 16 August Abdullah Shaykh Isma'il, Somali ambassador to the USSR, left Moscow.

Leadership Bodies Congratulate Congo President
PM1808101788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
13 Aug 88 Second Edition p 1

[Soviet leadership bodies' greetings message to Congo's Sassou-Nguesso on revolution anniversary]

[Text] To Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Congolese Labor Party Central Committee and president and head of government of the People's Republic of Congo

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers send to you, to the Congolese Labor Party, and to the whole friendly people of the Congo cordial greetings on the memorable occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Congolese Revolution.

The People's Republic of Congo has scored remarkable successes along the path of independence and progress during the last 25 years. Despite all obstacles and difficulties, the Congolese people and their recognized vanguard, the Congolese Labor Party, have remained loyal to their sociopolitical choice—the cause of building a new society.

The Congo's active participation in the solution of topical contemporary problems, in the struggle for peace and disarmament and for extirpating colonialism and racism, have gained your country the international community's deserved respect.

People in the Soviet Union value the relations of friendship and cooperation—cemented by a treaty—between our countries, and are convinced that Soviet-Congolese cooperation and relations between the CPSU and the Congolese Labor Party will continue to strengthen and develop.

We wish you further successes along the path of social progress and peace.

CPSU Central Committee
USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
USSR Council of Ministers

More on Equatorial Guinea Delegation Visit
PM1808081388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 Aug 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Ties"]

[Text] On 16 August P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin a delegation of the Equatorial Guinean House of People's Representatives led by F.B. Ngalo, chairman of the house.

At their request, the guests were told about progress made in restructuring every sphere of life in Soviet society and about the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the July (1988) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, which have given powerful impetus to renewal in the country. The Equatorial Guinean deputies were also briefed on the Soviet Union's efforts to promote new political thinking in international practice, this thinking being the foundation of contemporary Soviet foreign policy; they were also informed on the Soviet peace initiatives.

In this connection there was a detailed discussion on topical international issues. The general opinion was that in today's interdependent, interconnected world no country, large or small, can stand aloof from the struggle to radically improve the international situation. It was emphasized that the development of interparliamentary ties makes a substantial contribution to the task of broadening contacts between peoples and helps to strengthen trust and mutual understanding.

The sides exchanged opinions on questions of bilateral relations. The head of the delegation gave a message from President of Equatorial Guinea T. Obiang Nguema Mbasogo to A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The guest emphasized that the leadership and people of Equatorial Guinea are interested in broadening cooperation with the Soviet Union.

On the same day there was a conversation with the chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers and the chairmen and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' standing commissions. The head and members of the delegation met with journalists.

The Equatorial Guinean delegation visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. They also laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

East Europe

Polish Miners Make 'Extremist' Political Demands

LD1708163888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1138 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw, 17 Aug (TASS)—According to a PAP report, the illegal strike, in which several hundred people are taking part, is continuing at the July Manifesto mine in Jastrzebie-Zdroj. Despite the regional procurator's statement to the effect that this action violates the main provisions of the Trade Union Act and despite appeals to the strikers to disperse or to resume normal work, they are refusing to leave the mine.

The strikers, who began their action the evening of 15 August, advanced a number of economic and political proposals. The latter have clearly been inspired by extremists from the former "Solidarnosc." This is confirmed, in particular, by the refusal by the strike organizers to have talks with the mine's management and trade unions. As PAP points out, last night the participants added to their list of demands, which are becoming more and more extremist.

Reports on the strike in Jastrzebie are being exaggerated in every way by the Western mass media, representatives of which have established links with the members of the illegal "strike committee" and with extremists from underground groups.

Albania, Angola Establish Relations

LD1808100888 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Luanda August 18 TASS—The Governments of the People's Republic of Angola and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania have decided to establish diplomatic relations a the embassies' level, a joint communique issued here said.

The document was signed by Angolan and Albanian ambassasdors at the United Nations in New York, Angolan information agency ANGOP reported.

GDR Paper Cited on Berlin Wall Anniversary

PM1708140588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[Unnamed own correspondent dispatch: "In the Interests of Peace"]

[Text] Berlin, 16 Aug—In an article dedicated to the 27th anniversary of the establishment of border control between the GDR and West Berlin, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND wrote that this measure has played a large role in the struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace and for security and cooperation on our continent.

The newspaper reminded readers that, making use of the open border, certain circles in the FRG undermined the GDR economy. The damage caused was in excess of M100 billion. Plans were fostered to "liberate the eastern zone." Hysteria was whipped up and there was an increased threat of the use of military force.

Taking all these circumstances into account, the governments of the Warsaw Pact states appealed to the GDR People's Chamber, Government, and all its working people with the proposal to introduce a system on the border with West Berlin that would bar the way to subversive activity against the socialist countries. A reliable guard and effective control were established around West Berlin and security measures on the border with the FRG were stepped up.

The measures taken by the GDR, coordinated with and supported by the other Warsaw Pact allies, have made a significant contribution to peaceful development in Europe and throughout the world, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND pointed out. The peace won at the cost of so many casualties by the anti-Hitler coalition and its main force—the Soviet Union—in 1945 was thereby protected. The foundations for ensuring security in Europe were strengthened on a sensitive border where two systems confront one another with their main military forces. The development of events has confirmed that calm and order in this region are in the interests of both East and West.

The four-power agreement on West Berlin and the Treaty on the Principles of Relations Between the GDR and the FRG were concluded as a result, the article said; a system of European treaties as a whole was created, and the Final Act was signed in Helsinki. Both German states are members of the United Nations and its special organizations. The GDR has acquired broad international recognition. A total of 134 states maintain normal relations with it.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND reminded readers that both German states have a particular responsibility for peace. The GDR has proposed the creation of a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe—a zone of military detente, trust, and security. It has also proposed a meeting between the GDR and FRG defense ministers.

The controlled border between the GDR capital, Berlin, and West Berlin and also between the two German states has for 27 years contributed to the peace prevailing in Europe. This is how it will continue, the newspaper wrote in conclusion, if goodwill prevails not only in our country but also on the other side of the border.

West Europe

Ground Forces' Ivanovskiy Departs for Helsinki

PM1708134588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Departure for Helsinki"]

[Text] Army General Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense

minister, left Moscow 16 August on an official visit to Helsinki at the invitation of General J. Valtanen, commander in chief of the Finnish Defense Forces.

Army Gen Ye.F. Ivanovskiy was seen off at Sheremetevo Airport by Army General V.M. Arkhipov, USSR deputy defense minister, and Soviet Armed Forces generals and officers.

A. Puheloinen, acting military, naval, and air attache at the Finnish Embassy in the USSR, was among the send-off party.

Political & Social

Library Changes Attributed to Reader Demand

LD1708160088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1523 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 17 Aug (TASS)—Books that were previously stored in so-called "special stocks" of libraries will soon be accessible to the general reader. This month, for example, about 90 percent of foreign periodicals, apart from those which are blatantly anti-Soviet, will be transferred to stocks accessible to all readers, a TASS correspondent was informed at the USSR Ministry of Culture.

Natalya Gavrilenko, head of the libraries department of the ministry, commented on claims that had appeared in the press that editions of the speeches, statements, and reminiscences of Brezhnev, Chernenko, and other former Soviet leaders are being removed from Soviet libraries: "No one has given any instructions about removal. It is simply that a considerable quantity of literature that is no longer in demand by readers has piled up in the stocks of libraries nationwide. The greater part of these are sociopolitical publications dating from the sixties to the beginning of the eighties. These include the speeches and reminiscences of former Soviet leaders. As a rule, there are up to 100 copies of each title of these works in Soviet libraries. We believe that we should leave a reasonable quantity of these as a general service to readers. Each Soviet person has the right to acquire stenographic accounts and the materials of all party congresses and plenums and collected works of the documents of the CPSU and the Soviet state in a library."

Natalya Gavrilenko recalled that an interdepartmental commission, formed from a decision by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo for the transfer of Soviet and foreign literature from so-called "special stocks" to stocks for general use, has been operating for over a year now. The process of the legalization of books which were quite recently closed to readers is evidence of the growing glasnost and democratization of Soviet society, Natalya Gavrilenko noted.

Journal Calls for Less 'Senseless' Secrecy

PM1708153088 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 33, 13-19 Aug 88 (Signed to Press 11 Aug 88) pp 5-6

[S. Pestov article in response to reader's letter under the rubric "Glasnost Is as Necessary to Us as Air": "No Way!!!"—first paragraph is reader's letter]

[Text] Recently I read an article in PRAVDA, "What Is in the 'Safe'?", which raised the subject of the supposed secrecy in certain departments. But unfortunately unjustified secrecy flourishes not only in numbered "safes." This problem is important from both an economic and a sociopolitical viewpoint. Not for nothing was considerable attention devoted to it in the 19th party conference resolution "On Glasnost." I think ARGUMENTY I FAKTY should also help, in its articles, to put this resolution into practice.

R. Zinovyev, Moscow.

[Pestov] From the outset I would like to stress that openness and glasnost do not mean permissiveness and sloppiness. There are military secrets; diplomatic, economic secrets; there are, finally, state secrets. They exist and will continue to exist while a competitive struggle, rivalry between different social systems, continue to exist on earth.

But there are also a great many purely imaginary "secrets." Their excessive numbers paralyze normal work in many spheres of the country's activity, and cost a lot of money.

It is not so very long since the disappearance from official telephones of those frightening notices saying: "Remember! The enemy is listening in!" The real lamebrains were admonished by a poster hanging nearby, captioned: "The chatterbox is a real find for the spy," showing a man who has evidently not been successfully treated at the drying-out clinic eagerly blabbing into the telephone a "state secret about the range of missiles." Behind the back of the not-yet-cured alcoholic lurked an agent in dark glasses, with his collar turned up and his ears pinned back.

The atmosphere of universal suspicion and utmost secrecy was instilled by a man with soft shoes and the firm conviction that the class struggle intensifies as socialism develops.

True, suspicion resulted in the loss of true vigilance—the war caught many people unawares....

Telling the Spy Where He Gets Off? [subhead]

Spy mania and ultrasecrecy sometimes lead to absurd, comical situations. The Moscow Telephone Directory Enquiries Office answers a call from the editorial office:

"The Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute? There is no such thing in Moscow...."

"Why not? The central press wrote about one of its leaders recently, we can even tell you the address of the institute...."

"I'm telling you in plain Russian: There is no such institute, it is not in the book!"

Indeed, this institute is not in the Moscow telephone directory. If a spy wants to infiltrate it—that will tell him where he gets off! And at the same time—it's enough to make your hair stand on end—delegations quietly pass

through the entrance to this nonexistent institute from a very capitalist and perhaps not very friendly country. It emerged that this sloppiness has been going on for decades. Incidentally, the whole ministry of the nuclear power industry does not exist either, apparently, and this is fully confirmed by the telephone directory. Nor is the ministry of the radio industry in the directory, although the newspapers "blabbed" about the appointment of a minister of that department. A minister without portfolio—that is understandable, but a minister without a ministry—that's going too far!

Just as we have a capital without a telephone directory of domestic subscribers—it has been published in such microscopically small numbers over the last 10 years that not every resident enemy spy was able to get hold of one.

However, that is not the capital's only unusual feature—you cannot for any money get hold of a map of the city, only a kind of sketch plan.

(Incidentally, American diplomats leaving for Moscow are presented with a highly detailed map of Moscow, made with the help of aerial photography, which shows the flower bed outside the entrance to the Kurchatov Institute. By the way, you can buy it for $10 in New York stores.)

And in order to make things really hot for the spies everywhere, they did away with large-scale maps [kartydvukhverstki] entirely, over the whole territory of the country. True, the geologists, tourists, builders of gas pipelines, and foresters suffered.... But, first, you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs; and second, many people still managed to get hold of these top secret maps from somewhere.

Readers of ARGUMENTY I FAKTY have already asked (1988, No 2): When will it be possible to buy "two-verst" maps? In reply the chief of the cartography service administration of the USSR State Administration of Geodesy and Cartography reported, with justified pride, that the resolution of our equipment on satellites is twice as good as the American equipment. In that case, you would think the maps would be available for those who need them, but no, there is no question of the State Administration of Geodesy and Cartography issuing "two-verst" maps. No way!

In addition to the belt highway, Moscow is encircled by another two "concrete highways," but they are entirely absent from the map of Moscow Oblast. Given the present standard of satellite surveillance technology, when the number on a car's license plate can be recorded with no great difficulty, this "subterfuge" is simply ridiculous.

When There Is Not Much Information, But Plenty of Rumors [subhead]

Although information about the work of the KGB is beginning to appear in the press (for instance, ARGUMENTY I FAKTY has introduced the rubric "The KGB Reports and Comments"), much remains unknown. It is only decades later that we learn about our truly great intelligence agents, like Sorge, Abel, and Philby. (Footnote) (Despite repeated requests, the ARGUMENTY I FAKTY editorial office was unable to prepare an interview with Philby. Nonetheless, his conversations with an English journalist have been published abroad....)

In the corrupt times of stagnation, the sores of corruption, abuses, and permissiveness affected KGB workers least of all. But the public does not even know about the isolated instances where the committee has rid itself of people who had compromised themselves, with the exception of a chance mention in the newspapers of a former KGB officer who participated together with MVD workers in an attack on a cash collector.

To this day the circumstances surrounding the deaths of officials are discussed and hedged about with rumors. Yet every silence is a blunder on our part; an information vacuum is immediately filled with the most unlikely rumors, sometimes inspired by interested parties and services.

Who Benefits From Secrets... [subhead]

"Esteemed ARGUMENTY I FAKTY editorial office," Professor R. Tsilke from Novosibirsk writes, "I was invited to the institute's personnel department and asked to sign a paper about access to secret work. What secrets can there be in our genetics, which is floundering in the quagmire into which we were led by Lysenkoism? It seems to me that in this way they are trying to deprive people of the opportunity to go abroad to fulfill joint research programs."

The desire to keep everything secret is far from the harmless principle of the overcautious person proceeding from his sacred premise that "it is better to be overvigilant than undervigilant." It is also a way of showing power and demonstrating the prominent and essential nature of one's work.

"The system of filling in forms in preparing items for publication," Academician V. Ginzburg says indignantly, "takes up to 30 percent of working time. And that is on open work. Why? Photocopying papers on open topics is banned—why? All the same, many people do it on the quiet."

It is not surprising that publications come out many months after the discoveries themselves, and often, as a result, not only do they lose their novelty, but possibly their quite considerable profit. The leadership of the USSR Main Administration for the Preservation of State Secrets in the Press has drawn up proposals for considerably simplifying publication documents. It remains to hope that they will be introduced without delay.

However, there are people who benefit directly from secrecy. A young applicant with a frankly weak dissertation explained in this way, after defending it, why he had made the dissertation secret: "For a closed dissertation, I am free to choose my own opponents, and of course, I can find people who are not going to mess things up for me...."

The Number of Secrets Per Head of Population [subhead]

Figures were published recently on the number of watchmen in our country—almost half a million. Nearly a billion rubles a year is spent on maintaining them. Naturally, while theft exists guards are needed, but at the production unit and the storehouses, not in paper-pushing offices!

Maintaining the apparatus of zealous guardians of "secrets" costs far more.

Like any bureaucratic distortion, the "secrecy" apparatus seeks to extend its sphere of activity and draw in more and more people. An unimaginable number of questionnaires, instructions, amendments, and supplements grows up, complicating or even paralyzing real activity and normal work.

Secrecy is typical of the bureaucrat. Removing from the producer the opportunity to distribute for himself the product he has made, the bureaucrat not only refuses to allow outsiders near the actual mechanism of distribution, but does everything possible to conceal information about it too. Because then it might come out that a shortage is often created artificially so as to create would-be consumers who are dependent on a "benefactor," with all the ensuing favorable consequences. Or else the fact that this mechanism is unnecessary would become obvious.

Recently the ARGUMENTY I FAKTY editorial office tried to find out from the USSR Gosagroprom how many management workers it has. Calls to the reception office, to the administrator of affairs, to the personnel department, and other bodies yielded no results—all eight people asked refused to report this "terrible secret"...

People who visit the Ministry of the Timber Industry are struck by the ministry's huge building, with its numerous, showy entrances. And at almost every entrance, a janitor in uniform and a pass office. What is the Ministry of the Timber Industry hiding, and from whom? Is it, perhaps, strategic information on what proportion of timber procured rots in the woodland strips and distant stores while in the apparatus many thousands of people howl with boredom or sweat with frenzied inactivity? Or is it, perhaps, information to the effect that this country, which has half the world's resources of coniferous forest, is somewhere between Tanzania and Lesotho in terms of the provision of toilet paper?

But the Ministry of the Timber Industry is far from the only one! The entrance to many ministries is protected against spies by a stern militiaman. In order to create such a post you have to obtain special permission from the Ministry of Finance and the USSR MVD. But never mind, they obtain it.

An Open Secret [subhead]

"Tell us," readers ask, "how are we to understand this, the United States spends nearly $300 billion a year on defense, while we spend only 20 billion (expressed in dollars). Are we not going to find ourselves in the same position as in 1941?"

ARGUMENTY I FAKTY Nos 41 and 42 for 1987 gave the experts' explanation that R20 billion is only part of the military budget, and its full extent is now being clarified.

Let us observe that comparing the USSR's military spending with the corresponding expenditure of other countries will be possible only after the completion of the radical price reform that is planned in our country.

Recently, with a view to strengthening mutual trust, the Soviet side presented the American Defense Department with the most detailed information on the composition of our strategic forces, including figures on SLCM's. The other day, during his visit to the USSR, U.S. Defense Secretary F. Carlucci was, at his own request, given the opportunity to inspect the latest combat hardware, including a bomber known in the West by the codename "Blackjack." Publishing a photograph of the plane in ARGUMENTY I FAKTY proved impossible—a refusal was received from the USSR Defense Ministry. No way! Yet today's era calls on the working person to manage the economy not by a mechanical show of hands, but on the basis of thoughtful analysis and accurate information.

But the information that fills the newspapers says that in the era of stagnation and banqueting, the people's resources were not spent in the most sensible way.

And, apart from obvious losses in economic terms, the senseless secrecy gives foreign propaganda another substantial card—how cna you trust the Russians if they hush up information?

Yes, It's Possible! [subhead]

The CPSU is setting an example in the development of glasnost.

Today forthcoming CPSU Central Committee plenums are announced and information is given on CPSU Central Committee Politburo sessions. Perhaps it should be recalled that in Lenin's day the newspapers published the work plans of the Politburo and the Organizational Bureau.

The resolution of the 19th party conference says: "The conference supports the proposal on the publication of transcripts of party committee plenums, as well as drafts and resolutions in preparation on major questions of party and public life."

Ultrasecrecy, suspicion, and distrust of people are gradually retreating. A few years ago we saw the devout horror that gripped the leaders of the Orel Oblast statistical administration when they were asked about gross output of grain in the region. Figures are now published on gross output of grain for the whole country....

Even a schoolchild could tell you now how many nuclear warheads we have in our armory, yet in the not too distant past a person would have been considered crazy at best if he started showing an interest in this question; the number of our losses in Afghanistan has been mentioned.

Slowly but surely, the greater part of formerly closed literature is being transferred from special storehouses into rooms that are open to all readers. Journalists are permitted to write about the ills of our society that were formerly kept secret—prostitution, drug addiction, corruption.

But it is with patent reluctance that the bureaucratic clans give up the right to a monopoly of information, continuing to conceal it "with a view to the protection of state interests."

Working in these conditions is hard, very hard, for economists, writers, historians, sociologists, journalists, lecturers, and other ideological workers—people in the professions which life has called to the hottest spots.

Recently, after the tragedy in Arzamas, it became known that the train crew did not know what cargo was in the three ill-fated cars. In Gorkiy these cars raced through the "gravity yard," and it is a miracle that the tragedy did not happen in the oblast center....

The time has come to discuss the existing situation, so as to revoke all the instructions and directives now in force about secret information, retaining only the necessary minimum for which a clear justification exists. And a time limit must certainly be put on secrecy, after which a secret is automatically released. Strange as it may seen, when there is excessive secrecy it often happens that important defense and state secrets are made public. Secrecy is devalued—because it is abundant and obviously unnecessary, real vigilance is lost.

The masses should know everything, judge everything, and do everything consciously—the party is guided by this Leninist principle today. We need this so as to better understand our past and present, to know what is hampering our progress, to take the correct decisions on the acceleration of society's socioeconomic development, and to involve the individual in all the affairs of society, the state, and the collective.

Procuracy Official on Gold Theft, Prostitution

LD1708210088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Theft of gold, avaricious misconduct, prostitution, infringements of the regulations governing hard currency operations, the state of implementation of legislation, and the measures being taken in this respect by the procuracy inspectorate: These were the problems examined today at a Collegium of the USSR Procuracy.

[Correspondent A. Krutov, identified by caption] I was surprised to learn that there is so much theft and bribery in the gold-mining industry. In just 2 years—1976 and 1977—350 kg of industrial gold was confiscated, while according to the reports everything was fine and nobody noticed anything at enterprises, artels, and goldfields.

[A.F. Katusev, deputy USSR procurator general, identified by caption] And what's more, there was no shortfall in the amount of gold. There was no shortfall in gold. Unfortunately, that gold was confiscated from secondhand dealers, and in this area we are still waging a battle of sorts. Countermeasures are poor, however, in the places where the gold is actually stolen, particularly in the goldfields, the prospecting artels, and other enterprises. As I mentioned today, we have learned how to combat theft of piglets, meat, and so on, but we have neglected the important area of theft in the gold-mining industry.

[Krutov] My second question concerns prostitution and hard currency operations.

[Katusev] It is painful to realize that there are even 14-year old girls engaged in prositution. Of 42 girls registered as leading an immoral way of life in Odessa, 15 percent were schoolgirls.

[Krutov] I learned here that the first serious study of prostitution was carried out in 1910, and since then there has been nothing. How can you combat a phenomenon without having studied it?

[Katusev] Well, that's perhaps not quite correct. We have scientific and medical establishments and establishments within the law enforcement bodies which study this problem. The point of the matter lies elsewhere. During what we call the stagnant times the problem was hushed up; we considered that we had no such problem as prostitution, that it existed in the West, but that we didn't have it. In effect, we shamefully hushed things up, concealed things here and there and embellished the truth, with the result that it wasn't combated properly. As for the reasons for this phenomenon, I think it is time for us to stop blaming it all on the West, although this is, of course, a factor. I think that we have neglected work within the family, in schools, and in labor collectives.

[Krutov] Prostitution is a breeding ground for AIDS.

[Katusev] Yes.

[Krutov] And veneral diseases. Do you not think that because of this the punishment for prostitution has to be made more severe?

[Katusev] Well, what can I say? Prostitution, in general, is connected not only with AIDS, etc. Many things are bound up together—prostitution, dens of vice, vagrancy.

[Krutov] Parasitism.

[Katusev] Parasitism and so on, and drug addiction. As for infection with veneral diseases, in 1987 alone 350,000 people were identified as suffering from veneral diseases for the first time. And that doesn't just apply to 1987; it's approximately the same every year. During that year of 1987, 275 people were infected with AIDS, including 36 Soviet citizens.

[Krutov] Those are the virus carriers?

[Katusev] The virus carriers. The struggle is on. In our country people are held liable for infecting others with veneral diseases, with AIDS, etc. I think that in this respect the law is severe. It simply has to be applied properly, approaching each case individually, of course. There are no grounds for tightening it up, so to speak.

Film Depicting 'Stagnation' Years Assessed

LD1708171588 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Baku August 17 TASS—TASS correspondent Leonid Goldshtein reports:

Even though the film "Scoundrel" made in Azerbaijan, Transcaucasia, has not yet been screened in the USSR, there has been a request to run the film at the festival in San Francisco and show it subsequently in a number of cities in the USA and Canada. The film was put on the program of the coming week of Soviet cinema in the FRG. It will have its premiere abroad in Budapest this autumn.

The film is a study of the moral damage sustained by Soviet society in the years of stagnation. It is directed by Vagif Mustafayev, 34, a student of prominent cinematographer Eldar Ryazanov. This is the first film directed by Mustafayev. "The genre of social grotesque made it possible to starkly reveal the ugly aspects of our recent past", Mustafayev told the TASS correspondent. "The idea of the film was conceived in the early eighties, before the launching of the perestroyka drive in the USSR, so there were chances that the film never would be screened. Glasnost established in the country guaranteed the possibility fo depicting everything truthfully. The course in this direction assumed by the party was confirmed again by the resolutions of the 19th all-union conference of the CPSU. The aim of the film is to help overcome the ills of the recent past and prevent the relapse to them."

The creative trends of the national film studios in Baku can be summed up as multifariousness of the quests and artistic presentation of truth. This reflects the processes of perestroyka, democratization taking place in the USSR. The theme of the forming of a new moral climate in Soviet society is reflected, specifically, by the film "Devil Mascot Over the Windshield", which earned a prize at a recent all-union film festival.

Youth Disturbances in Alapayevsk Leave 1 Dead

PM1708133188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 6

[IZVESTIYA own correspondent A. Pashkov report under the rubric "Emergency": "Main Culprit Is Hooliganism"]

[Text] The holiday was coming to an end: On 13 August the people of Alapayevsk were celebrating the city's foundation day. The young people's disco closed 1 hour before midnight. But they did not disperse because they were waiting for the fireworks promised in the program and other measures. But these were postponed, and the crowd became dissatisfied. Incidents broke out between groups of young people and the militia. The atmosphere became charged because there were many young people who had been drinking: During these days four of the city's stores had been working flatout. When the militia workers detained five people, stones and various objects flew in their direction. The windows of a fire engine, State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate vehicles, and an ambulance were broken. The situation became increasingly unmanageable.

A group of people, numbering 150-200, approached the house where the chairman of Alapayevsk Gorispolkom lived, demanding that the detainees be released. The conflict had gotten out of control. The excited mass of people tried to make its way to the city militia headquarters via the bridge which divides the city in two but it was met here by a militia detachment barring the way. The latter was showered with sticks and stones. Real hand-to-hand fighting started, and shots rang out....

Today it is difficult to give a simple assessment of the actions of the young people and the law and order service. Criminal proceedings have been instituted by the Sverdlovsk Oblast Prosecutor's Office, and an investigation is under way. The most highly qualified officials of the oblast prosecutor's office, Alapayevsk City, and the oblispolkom Internal Affairs Administration have been included in the inquiry team. RSFSR Deputy Prosecutor I. Zemlyanushin has arrived. But one fact is already certain: Five people were wounded, one was killed, and eight militiamen sustained injuries. [Moscow TASS in English at 1604 GMT on 16 August carries an

account of these "clashes" provoked by "hooligans." The TASS version explains the shooting death of one of the youths as follows: "One of the groups of hooligans attacked a militiaman and tried to wrestle a pistol from him. During the grapple for the pistol, it fired accidentally and one of the attackers was mortally wounded."]

"A careful study is now being made of the way the incident began," Sverdlovsk Oblast Prosecutor V. Tuykov says. "Soon after our group's arrival in Alapayevsk, and after conversations with people involved in the events, we were able to draw preliminary conclusions. For sure, the intensive sale of alcohol played its part. This is becoming clear, and the guilty persons will be punished. The organizers of the holiday committed certain blunders. The volunteer people's militia and the Komsomol's operations detachment were not in action. But the main point is that at the most critical point there was nobody who could stop the young people and prevent things from getting out of control."

On Sunday evening a party-economic aktiv meeting took place in Alapayevsk which gave a principled assessment of what happened. But there was also uneasy talk of the poor state of affairs in educational work with young people, about the inability to win them over, and about the complex social phenomena which have emerged in the city. The hooligans and the ringleaders will be punished, but the conditions which gave rise to the conflict should be rectified immediately....

Poll Identifies, Views Nationality Problems

PM1808090188 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Aug 88 p 3

[Article by Candidate of Philological Sciences Ye. Dugin and L. Chernenko, deputy chief editor of TASS union information service: "There Is No 'Us' and 'Them' Among Equals"]

[Text] "The party conference," the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference Resolution 'On Inter-Nation [Mezhnatsionalnyye] Relations' says, "considers it to be a task of historic importance to persistently assert and creatively develop Leninist nationalities policy norms and principles and to resolutely purge them of artificial deposits and deformations."

The party committees are conducting a search for new forms of international education. This was also shown by a snap poll [ekspress-opros] of leading workers of the union republic Communist Party central committees and party obkoms on the topic. This poll was carried out by the TASS union information service chief editorial office and the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences scientific research institute for the study and generalization of the experience of party, soviet, and ideological work.

As is well known, national problems do not exist in a pure form. Of a universal nature, they are closely interconnected with political, economic, social, and practical issues. In the opinion of those taking part in the poll, the complications which have occurred recently in inter-nation relations in a number of regions of the country have been caused primarily by the contradictions which have accumulated in the republics' socioeconomic development.

Among the factors which have had an adverse effect on inter-nation relations, the majority of those polled cited the unconsidered siting of production forces on the scale of the country, which has led to the population's excessive, unjustified migration, and in a number of cases has given rise to a hostile attitude toward migrants on the part of the indigenous population.

Another aspect of this problem is highlighted by D. Latifov, chief of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department: "Decisions on the location of industrial establishments should consider requirements for forming and developing national detachments of the working class." An important factor is also noted by S. Pavlov, chief of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department: "It is essential to show objectively both the contribution of each republic to the single national economic complex and the benefits which the republics receive from all-union funds. Statistics attest that the smaller the individual republics' contribution to the all-union fund, the greater the benefits they enjoy from these funds. That is also a manifestation of social injustice. We must reveal the full picture of the fulfillment of mutual contract commitments."

To correctly resolve problems of inter-nation relations, comprehensive social information on these issues is necessary. Those taking part in the poll noted that the party committees do not always have this material. "We cannot deem satisfactory a situation where statistical anthologies of the past decades contain considerably less data than anthologies of the twenties and thirties," notes L. Kravchuk, chief of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department. "Within the framework of the 1989 all-union population census we should provide for the publication of fuller social information. There is also a need to carry out comprehensive ethnosociological research."

Pointing to the inadequate development of the theory of inter-nation relations at the present stage, those taking part in the snap poll note the urgency of generalizing, studying, and disseminating new experiences of work on international education. There is a particularly keenly felt shortage of studies of the nature and manifestations of chauvinism and nationalism under present conditions and an underdevelopment of the mechanism for studying the dialectic of the national and the international,

revealing the content, structure, and dynamics of the development and degree of satisfaction of the diverse requirements of the population, including nonindigenous national groups.

The snap poll showed that in some party committees a practice has formed whereby particular posts have been associated with representatives of a specific nationality. But there is also positive experience. Thus, in Kabardino-Balkariya the reserve for filling vacancies is selected from workers of a minimum of three nationalities. Cadres policy here is structured in such a way that all nationalities living in the autonomous republic are represented in leading organs. Of course, this approach cannot be considered universal for all party committees. But it is important to note that the national aspect should be present in assessing various political situations—be it promotion to a leading post or the distribution of benefits.

Ideological influence on international education, a considerable proportion of those taking part in the snap poll notes, remains feeble in the union republics: As a rule there is no system for studying the population's interests, requirements, and opinions. As can be seen from the poll, the search for the new in international education is often of a merely formal nature. Answers to the questionnaire's questions abound in lists of measures.

Among the factors at the root of inter-nation conflicts, A. Ioseliani, chief of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department, draws attention to the existence of vestiges of the past in people's consciousness and behavior and of customs which contradict the norms of the Soviet way of life and our laws and moral principles. These vestiges make themselves felt particularly keenly where insufficient attention is paid to the development of the social sphere, where the role of the system of education and training is belittled. In this situation representatives of a particular nationality begin to feel dispossessed and experience a feeling of envy and national decline.

All this plays into the hands of those who, under cover of the slogans of democratization and glasnost, are seeking to present themselves as the expressers of public opinion, the defenders of national interests, the guardians of the historical heritage, and even fighters for restructuring. Resorting to demagoguery and to the persecution of all those who do not agree with them, these people implant a division into "us" and "them" on the basis of nationality. Those taking part in the poll agree that the Western propaganda media and special services are doing everything to fuel tension and conflicts on national soil. They rely on extremist nationalist elements.

The majority of those taking part in the poll express dissatisfaction at the portrayal and interpretation of inter-nation relations in the press and in radio and television broadcasts. This subject is frequently presented in a simplified, uncontroversial manner and bears the mark of the short-term campaign approach.

Most often the press does not engage in a subtle and thorough analysis of national problems but merely performs "emergency" functions. The mass media do not operate flexibly enough, are often not in command of the situation in the regions, and do not always deal a proper rebuff to attempts to use the conditions of democratization and glasnost to satisfy group interests.

The attention of the central press and television's mass audience is not being focused adequately on the republics' relations in the economic and cultural spheres, on inter-nation communication. Republican television studios' programs of broad interest are only used in isolated instances by central broadcasting. As a result acquaintance with the life of the union republics is restricted predominantly to concert and music programs. In fact no system for the interunion exchange of television and radio programs has been set up.

The snap poll showed that the serious theoretical study of the concept of international education and the scrupulous, thorough study, generalization, and dissemination of positive experience of work to improve the nationalities policy and national relations are essential. "Roundtable" meetings, speeches by scientists, writers, workers, and kolkhoz members representing different union republics could give a lot. It is necessary to activate the exchange of lecturers between the Soviet republics and to set up regular training for ideological cadres throughout the whole country on the most topical problems of inter-nation relations.

It would be expedient to introduce special programs on Central Television and All-Union Radio or an individual program like "In the Union Republics" or "Union of Equals" which would reveal without embellishment and celebratory gloss the diversity of the life of the national republics as a component of the USSR. It would be worth using the experience of television linkups with foreign states within the country too, for regular inter-nation communication.

The solution of these problems revealed during the snap poll would promote the improvement of international education.

Estonian Officials on Talks With Gorbachev

LD1708154988 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 1600 GMT 26 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Today, after the session of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party, some officials were interviewed. Here is (?Haivi) Saarna:

[Begin recording] [Saarna] Preparations for the 11th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party, scheduled for August, were the center of

discussion at a session of the Central Committee Politburo. After the session, Vaino Valjas, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party, briefly summed up what was discussed:

[Valjas] One has to say that the plenum will take place with the very extensive participation of the people. Second, we are doing very serious work toward this end, so that the discussion will be pithy. We have received proposals from many party organizations and will definitely still be receiving them from the town and rayon party committees and others. In a word, as far as the organizational side is concerned, a wide aktiv has been involved in the preparations. It is quite clear that this plenum will have to solve many fundamental questions and provide answers. In this respect we have also done very effective preparatory work on all levels, and that also includes Moscow.

I am pleased to say that on last Wednesday a lengthy, pithy, very constructive, and very comradely conversation took place with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. A whole range of questions on Estonian issues was discussed. Support for our undertakings, including the changeover to self-management and self-financing, fully exists on the part of both the CPSU Central Committee and the general secretary.

Also, a conversation took place with the central theme being the question of national relations. A conversation took place about what is being envisaged for the CPSU Central Committee plenum which will be discussing the questions of national relations. One must say that our proposals and our view of the matter also found approval. Mikhail Gorbachev uttered very remarkable words—that our party should regard the large number of our national cultures as one of our most valuable treasures; pay great attention to and respect a person's true patriotic national feelings; and work seriously against all phenomena which have an opposite effect. I have to repeat that several points regarding those measures which are included in the platform of our republic's party organization were again discussed, and they found support with the CPSU Central Committee. At the same time, the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party and also the republican government have already begun to realize a whole string of specific measures. [passage omitted]

[Saarna] Good news and promises to his people about his recent trip to Moscow will be related by Bruno Saul, chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers.

[Saul] Yes, last week I also had a meeting with Comrade Ryzhkov regarding the same question of converting Estonia to self-management and self-financing. He not only expressed complete support for this; he requested that a relevant Council of Ministers resolution be prepared within the next 2 months, so that one could start to implement this program in the year 1989. Comrade Ryzhkov also agreed in principle to equate the wage scale of our new proposed committee, the Culture Committee and the Education Committee, with that of the Industry Committee; that is, with the wages of the state plan. A task to this effect was given to the economy department of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR Committee for Labor and Wages. Likewise, support was given for our application which directly concerns increasing the additional market allocations regarding foodstuffs as well as fuel.

And third, I would like to note that at the same time a meeting took place also with Comrade Masyukov, chairman of the state plan. During the meeting our complaints concerning the planning organs, other republics, and the Union central organs regarding next year's draft plan were examined. Here we had mainly three complaints. One concerns the agricultural complex, first and foremost an additional allocation of feed to the republic. The second concerns an allocation of capital investment, and a reduction of the union contribution in respect to meat. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Latvian Aktiv Confers on Education Changes

PM1808114188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Second Edition p2

[TASS report: "Train Worthy Successors"]

[Text] Riga, 16 Aug—The tasks of party, soviet, and economic bodies and academic establishments connected with restructuring secondary and higher education, which stem from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February (1988) Plenum and the 19th all-union party conference, were discussed at a meeting of the republic's aktiv held today.

The speaker and other participants noted that democratization demands an improvement in management at all levels. Everyone appreciates this in theory but in practice the situation is quite different. For example, the republic's newly created Ministry of Public Education has already earned considerable criticism from the public because its apparatus is still not concentrating on the real tasks of restructuring.

Measures were outlined to radically improve the republic's public education system.

The meeting was addressed by B.K. Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee.

Lithuanians Discuss Receiving Polish Television

LD1708123488 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1005 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] This is Leslaw Nowak from Moscow. Next year, a fourth local television transmitter with increased power is to be handed over in Vilnius. This means that apart from the republican and two central Soviet channels, there will be the capacity to transmit another channel.

Readers of CZERWONY SZTANDAR, the Polish-language newspaper published in Lithuania, are carrying on a discussion about this subject. They are of the opinion that the television viewers themselves should decide about this, so that they can choose as the fourth channel something that is necessary and will be popular. (?Many) inhabitants of the Vilnius region would like to watch Polish television as they wish to know more about the social and cultural life of fraternal Poland, the course of the economic reform, and the problems and attainments of Poles. Readers from the Vilnius [name indistinct] street and also a number of surrounding villages have written to CZERWONY SZTANDAR to point out that this channel would also be indispensible for our children who study in schools with Polish language instruction. There are 91 signatures.

Appointments, Dismissals in Azerbaijan SSR
NC1808070388 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 16 Aug 88

[Excerpts] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee held a plenum on 16 August to examine the practical work carried out by the republic's party organizations to realize the decisions adopted by the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and the June 1988 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the meeting. [passage omitted]

The plenum discussed the question of organization. In light of his retirement, the plenum released Comrade Yusif-Zade from his responsibilities as member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. The plenum also released Comrade Nazim Mamedov from his responsibilities as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department and candidate member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau on grounds that he has been appointed to a new post.

The plenum appointed (?Vagib) Guseynov as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Organizational Party Work Deparatment. The plenum also appointed (?Feynur) Aliyev as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee General Department.

The outcome of the deliberations was adopted as the plenum's decision.

Baku Raykom Reprimanded for 'Deficiencies'
NC1808071388 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0340 GMT 17 Aug 88

[From "The Republican Press Review"]

[Text] The newspapers report that the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee has discussed the guidance given to economic, social, and cultural development by the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom. It was noted that the guidance given to the path of reconstruction by the raykom bureau and its [word indistinct] Salimov, Babyeva, and (?Lomatev), has been poor. In fact, they have allowed serious deficiencies and mistakes in all domains. The volume of industrial production in the rayon has dropped, and the work of the party organizations does not comply with the requirements of reconstruction. The problems of [words indistinct] have not been seriously considered in the work of the rayon's party organization. The housing fund has been maintained very poorly, and serious shortcomings exist in the ideological work [word indistinct].

Comrade Salimov, first secretary of the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom, was [words indistinct]. A recommendation was made for his removal. Comrade Babayeva, second secretary of the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom, was (?verbally reprimanded). Meanwhile, Comrade (?Lomatev), secretary of the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom, and Comrade Abbasov, chairman of the 26th Baku Commissars Rayispolkom, were cautioned.

The plenum that was held by the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom elected Veli Mamedov as deputy chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department and [words indistinct] as first secretary of the 26th Baku Commissars Raykom.

Perm Obkom First Secretary Replaced
LD1808120888 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] A plenum of the Perm Obkom today examined an organizational question. Comrade Konoplev was released from the duties of obkom first secretary in connection with his retirement on pension. Comrade Chernyshev has been elected Perm Obkom first secretary; he worked as a deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee machine building department and previously as first secretary of Perm Gorkom. Speaking at the plenum was Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

July Plenum of Yerevan Gorkom Reported
PM1708113988 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 15 Jul 88 p 1

[ARMENPRESS report: "Yerevan Armenian Communist Party Gorkom Plenum"]

[Text] A Yerevan Armenian Communist Party Gorkom plenum has been held to examine an organizational question.

The plenum released L.G. Saakyan from his duties as first secretary and bureau member of the Yerevan party gorkom in connection with his reassignment.

M.S. Minasbekyan, who had been working as chief of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Transport and Communications Department, was elected first secretary and bureau member of the Yerevan Armenian Communist Party Gorkom.

At the plenum there was a sharp and principled discussion of the situation which has taken shape in the republic's capital. The speakers on this question were L.G. Saakyan; A.M. Gegamyan, first secretary of Mashtotsskiy party raykom; V.A. Turyan, first secretary of Sovetskiy party raykom; R.V. Atoyan, deputy director of Yerevan Scientific Research Institute of Mathematical Machines; S.G. Badalyan, secretary of the party committee of Yerevan Physics Institute; P.M. Geruni, director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Radiophysical Measurements; F.Kh. Akopdzhanyan, chief of the Armenian SSR Main Power and Electrification Administration; Ya.I. Khachikyan, rector of Yerevan's V.Ya. Bryusov State Pedagogical Institute of Russian and Foreign Languages; and M.S. Minasbekyan, first secretary of Yerevan party gorkom. They sharply criticized the activity of the party gorkom and raykoms and the primary party organizations which failed to ensure proper order and observance of legality, resulting in antisocial manifestations. It was pointed out that party and soviet organs are frequently late in adopting the necessary decisions, lag behind the development of events, and fail to find the necessary work forms and methods enabling them to effectively influence people's sentiments and behavior. The leaders of many labor collectives and primary party and Komsomol organizations are not in control of the situation and have not managed to organize educational and explanatory work on preventing strikes and work stoppages. The exacerbation of the situation in Yerevan was affected by violations of the principles of social justice and by other negative phenomena inherited from the stagnation times which led to a decline among working people in the prestige of individual party, soviet, and economic leaders. The plenum participants advocated the need to take effective measures to restore order in the city and to resume an efficient work rhythm.

The plenum charged Yerevan gorkom bureau, party raykoms, and primary party organizations with taking urgent measures to normalize the situation in the city and to mobilize the working people's efforts to fulfill the tasks set by the 19th CPSU Conference.

S.G. Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, participated in the work of the plenum and addressed it.

Vladivostok Radio Reports Jun Public Meeting

LD1708144888 Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0715 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Last Saturday [18 June] a meeting in support of restructuring was held in Magadan, at which it was announced that the informal public association Democratic Initiative had been established. The meeting was attended by our radio station's correspondent Gennadiy Ovchinnikov and today we asked him to give his opinion of the event.

[Ovchinnikov] The meeting was organized and held by an initiative group of six persons who had put up hand-written posters throughout the city the day before. The city authorities took no part in organizing the meeting. On the contrary, they did everything possible to prevent it from taking place. The day before, at the gorkom, First Secretary Osina held a conference of secretaries of the party organization at which instructions were given to set people against the meeting, on the basis of the dubious past of those members of the initiative group who had been convicted. Nevertheless, some 1,000 people turned up for the meeting on the square by the drama theater. As became clear from the speeches of most of the speakers—and the meeting was addressed by some 30 persons in all—they had come here alarmed over the fate of restructuring and concerned that the process of democratization might be slowed down or even turned back. Justification for such alarm and proof of the basis of such worries were the personal impressions and observations of the people. At the meeting they cited a large number of examples of passivity, direct opposition to changes, callousness, injustice, and red tape on the part of certain leading officials of the city and oblast.

This mood of criticism, this burst of political activity, in these times, can only be welcomed. One thing did put me on my guard during the meeting: For a long time no one recalled the theses of the CPSU Central Committee and there was not a single word about them in the draft resolution proposed by the organizers of the meeting. Unfortunately, the organizers of the meeting insistently tried to divert the quite justified indignation of those assembled at specific instances of functionaries' callousness and indifference into the channel of general conclusions. Sometimes grabbing the microphone quite out of turn from the hands of the party into the hands of informal organizations.

Nevertheless, the meeting itself was obviously lacking in this very democratic nature. Applause and shouts of approval accompanied only the speeches in support of the resolution. Any word of objection was met with hooting and whistling and was stifled primarily by the very members of the organizing committee, who would surround the microphone in a tight circle and supervise whose turn it was to speak. They did not have much to worry about on that score, to say the least. Only three or four people tried to object and express opinions different from the resolution. Alas, among these few there was not a single party or local soviet official, even though the meeting was attended by quite a few obkom and gorkom officials and they were even invited to speak. Yes, in Magadan an excellent opportunity was missed to organize an open discussion on the eve of the 19th party conference.

Ligachev, Yakovlev Sign Official's Obituary
PM1808113988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Second Edition p 6

[Obituary of Grachya Nikitovich Kaplanyan]

[Excerpts] Soviet theater has suffered a heavy loss. Professor Grachya Nikitovich Kaplanyan, the well-known Soviet director and public figure, member of the CPSU since 1947, member of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet deputy, deputy chairman of the USSR Union of Theater Workers Board, chairman of the Armenian Union of Theater Workers Board, USSR people's artiste, laureate of USSR and Armenian SSR State Prizes, and artistic manager of the G. Sundukyan State Academy Theater, has died at the age of 65. A major artiste who made a big contribution to the development of Soviet multiethnic culture has departed this life.

Grachya Nikitovich Kaplanyan was born on 14 November 1923 in Stepanavanskiy Rayon, the Armenian SSR. [passage omitted]

Ye.K. Ligachev, A.N. Yakovlev, P.N. Demichev, S.G. Arutyunyan, A.I. Volskiy, Yu.P. Voronov, Yu.A. Silyarov, A.N. Aksenov, V.G. Zakharov, Kh.B. Abramyan, V.A. Andreyev, V.G. Apostol, I.K. Arkhipova, R.A. Arzumanyan, A.A. Belyayev, V.K. Varderesyan, A.V. Vasnetsov, G.M. Voskanyan, O.N. Yefremov, Ye.V. Zaytsev, L.M. Imanov, E.G. Klimov, V.V. Karpov, K.Yu. Lavrov, G.M. Markov, I.A. Naumenko, S.A. Sarkisyan, F.T. Sarkisyan, Ye.R. Simonov, M.A. Ulyanov, T.N. Khrennikov.

Environmentalists Rally in Kirghizia
LD1708163788 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Frunze August 17 TASS—A mass rally in support of the demand for a better protection of nature has been held in the capital of Soviet Kirghizia today. With the permission of the authorities inhabitants of Frunze got together in the Maksim Gorkiy public garden, where they expressed concern about the state of the air basin over the city.

A mere 20 years ago air in Frunze was clean, there were more than 100 square metres of greenery per each inhabitant of the city. Night winds from the mountains cleared automobile gas from the streets. Industrial zones were separated from residential neighbourhoods by forest parks.

The situation has worsened in recent years. The unjustified dense siting of multi-storeyed buildings has reduced the area of greenery in the capital of Kirghizia and hampered the inflow of streams of fresh mountain air into the city. The dust and gas content in Frunze is over and above the admissible norms.

The worsening of the ecological situation is a source of well-founded concern for public. In spring this year the local antibiotics factory was closed in answer to the demand of public. Now old purification installations are being reconstructed or new ones are being put up at many plants, trees are being planted. The government of the republic has appropriated considerable funds for environmental protection, yet at the same time the construction of a new heat and power plant is continuing near the city. In the opinion of scientists, after the plant becomes operative dust content in Frunze will increase.

The speakers at the rally demanded that the Council of Ministers of that Central Asian republic stop the construction of the heat and power plant and take additional measures for the purification of the air basin in the city of Frunze.

Legal Backing for Environment Measures Viewed
PM1808084188 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 6 Aug 88 p 4

[Own correspondent A. Vorobyev report: "Nature Demands a Prosecutor"]

[Text] Ulyanovsk—Just ponder these figures:

Some 100 million tonnes of harmful substances are discharged into the air in our country every year. Discharges have been reduced just 4 percent in 5 years. Some 40 million people live where atmospheric pollution is 10 times the permissible norms—in 100 cities in the country. This list includes Gorkiy, Berezniki, Kemerovo, Nizhniy Tagil, and Dushanbe.

The Aral is dying. Of 53 species of animals in its zone, 13 are left. Some 3 billion cubic meters of untreated water is discharged into the Caspian every year. Fish stocks there have declined to one-tenth of what they were! A threat has been posed to the resort of Riga, since the Daugava River has become one of the chief sources of pollution of the Gulf of Riga.

These facts were cited at a conference organized in Ulyanovsk by the country's Prosecutor's Office.

The conference showed that everyone clearly sees the chief culprit, the destroyer of nature. "Nature conservation is under the boot of the economic planner," as Prof V. Petrov of Moscow State University, head of the ecological law department, so graphically put it.

Persuasion and formal fines cannot shake the legal nihilism of economic planners who ignore government resolutions and laws on environmental conservation, and references to a lack of funds do not stand up to criticism. An average of R30 billion is being allocated during the 5-year plan. But ministries are not assimilating these funds, particularly with regard to water conservation measures. Not one government resolution on basins and rivers has been fulfilled.

How are prosecutors acting under these alarming conditions? The keynote speaker—O. Soroka, USSR deputy general prosecutor—admitted that there has not yet been any decisive change in their actions. All the work amounts in practice to drawing up representations and warnings.

S. Goryacheva, prosecutor from Maritime Kray, was applauded off the rostrum. Nakhodka CPSU Gorkom decided together with construction workers to report the ahead-of-schedule commissioning of the second stage of the meat combine. They decided to overlook a "trifle"—the purification installations. The prosecutor's office spent 2 months fighting the bloc of economic planners and the gorkom. The law won. The prosecutor's principled state stance won.

The prosecutor's offices of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast and Nizhniy Tagil faced up to nature protection issues. M. Otmakhov, prosecutor of this Urals city, bitterly described how much effort and nervous energy was expended in a conflict with the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, before which all the monitoring organizations headed by the city's sanitary inspector quailed:

"It is incredibly difficult to overcome departmental resistance when it is combined with parochialism!"

Well, there was a big discussion. May it be followed by big deeds.

17 Dead, 106 Injured in Bologoye Train Crash

PM1708150188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 3

[R. Ignatyev article: "Crash Near Bologoye"]

[Text] There was a major crash between Poplavenets and Berezayka Stations on the October Railroad at 1800 hours 16 August.

It happened 13 km from the city of Bologoye. The "Aurora" passenger train No 159 was en route from Leningrad to Moscow. The crash happened on a short stretch. Fifteen cars were derailed. They ended up in a ditch. The other three cars and the locomotive remained on the track.

The editorial office contacted the party gorkom and asked for details of the incident. B. Petrov, chief of the Kalinin party obkom transportation and communications department, came to the phone.

"Representatives of local organs of power were on the scene immediately after the crash," Boris Alekseyevich said. "A government commission headed by V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, also flew in from Moscow. Specialists from the Ministry of Railways have been brought in, too. They include N.S. Konarev, minister of railways. Inhabitants of nearby population centers, servicemen, and civil defense headquarters officials have also arrived. They have been helping to evacuate the injured and repair the wrecked track.

"During the crash a major fire broke out in the restaurant car. This fire spread to neighboring cars. Virtually the entire train was alight. Unfortunately, the fire trucks from Bologoye, Vyshniy Volochek, and Valday could not reach the burning cars quickly: The area is marshland. The fire train that did arrive ran out of water. Nonetheless, the raging flames were contained after a while. A team of doctors was flown in from Leningrad and aid arrived from neighboring oblasts. Repair work went on all night. The same evening and night relief trains carried 557 passengers to Moscow. They were bused to Bologoye Station.

"We are now doing everything possible to help the victims. Relatives and friends have been cabled and are already arriving from various cities. We are providing them with food and accommodation.

"By midday on 17 August through traffic on the Leningrad-Moscow route had been resumed. The first four trains soon left for the capital. At that time the other track was still being repaired. The government commissions and specialists are trying to establish the cause of the crash. Several theories are being looked at. There have been reports that fire broke out [proizoshlo vozgoraniye] shortly before the train jumped the rails. No one can confirm this fact as yet. All the circumstances surrounding the crash are being thoroughly investigated.

"One hundred and six people had been hospitalized as of midday 17 August. The initial death toll is being put at 17. The dead include some children."

Death Toll Updated

LD1708192088 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 17 TASS—Work is continuing to eliminate the consequences of the crash of the train "Aurora", which, while travelling at a speed of 150 km an hour on Tuesday evening, got into an accident half way between Leningrad and Moscow.

According to the latest data, 22 persons were killed in the accident and 107 taken to hospital. Physicians from Moscow and Leningrad are on a round-the-clock duty in the hospitals of Bologoye station near which the crash took place.

The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council Of Ministers have expressed deep condolences to the bereaved families, the near and dear of the victims of the accident.

Speaking on the details of the crash, a spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Railways told a TASS correspondent that the fast express-train jumped the rails when travelling full speed ahead, and a blaze immediately broke out in it. Diesel fuel in the restaurant car, which poured out of full fuel cans for the stoves, caught fire. Flames spread to the other cars.

After feeling a powerful jerk, the engine driver immediately reported the accident to the man on duty in the Bologoye section of the railway. The latter ordered the fire fighting squads and repair trains from the neighbour stations to arrive to the scene. The effort to put out the flames continued for nearly four hours.

Right after the flames were extinguished, restoration of the track was started, and traffic had been reopened on it by noon today.

The government commission led by Vladimir Gusev, vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, continues looking into the causes of the crash. The preliminary findings are as follows: Twenty-four hours before the crash a track and gauge measuring car ran on that section of the road and registered a deviation from the norms of maintenance of the rail track for high speed sections—including cocking and sagging. In view of this fact orders were issued to limit the speed down to 60 km an hour. Yet the officials of the Bologoye section of the track did not forward that warning, and trains continued running at a high speed on the faulty section of the track.

Earthquake Recorded on Sakhalin; No Injuries
LD1708135688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1333 GMT 17 Aug 88

["Earthquake on Sakhalin"—TASS headline]

[Text] Yuzhnosakhalinsk, 17 Aug (TASS)—The Yuzhnosakhalinsk seismic station registered an underground tremor on 17 August at 0219. The epicenter of the earthquake was beside the miners' settlement of Sinegorsk, where the strength of the tremor was between 5 and 6 points. Cracks have appeared in some residential and administrative buildings there, brickwork has collapsed, and plaster has come down. The settlement's school has been damaged.

The strength of the underground tremors was 2 to 3 points in Yuzhnosakhalinsk, 4 to 5 points in Uglezavodsk and 3 points in Novoaleksandrovsk.

There are no casualties.

Earthquake Registered in Kirghizia 17 Aug
LD1808103688 Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Frunze August 18 TASS—An earthquake measuring six points (on a 12-point scale) shook Soviet Kirghizia on August 17.

The focus of the earth tremors that occurred at 18:56 Moscow time was located on the border with another Soviet republic, Tajikistan, 135 kilometres south west of the city of Osh, according to the Seismology Institute at the Kirghizian Academy of Sciences.

Underground tremors were felt in the village of Daraut-Kurgan, measuring 4-5 points, in the townships of Gulcha and Sufi-Kurgan (three points) and in Osh (two points).

No casualties or damage were reported.

Economic

Jan-Jul Industrial Performance Figures Noted
PM1708130188 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 33, Aug 88 (Signed to Press 11 Aug 88) pp 8, 16

[USSR State Committee for Statistics report: "On Industry's Work in January-July 1988"—boldface as published]

[Text] In January-July, contract commitments for output deliveries in line with state orders and direct deliveries were fulfilled 99.2 percent, as against 99.3 percent in the first 6 months of this year. Contract discipline was breached by 20 percent of associations and enterprises (14 percent in January-June 1988). Enterprises which lagged behind failed to supply consumers with output worth R3.6 billion, which is R0.9 billion more than during the first 6 months.

Enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry coped in full with their contract commitments; such commitments were fulfilled 99.93-99.94 percent by enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry and by Belorussia's industry, and 99.8-99.9 percent by enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry, and by Lithuania's industry. The level of fulfillment of contract commitments for deliveries was lower than industry's average in enterprises under ministries within the machine building complex (except the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry), the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and industry in Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Armenia.

Compared with the corresponding period of last year, the production of industrial output in the first 7 months increased by 4.1 percent, while average daily output increased by 4.5 percent. Compared with July last year, the total volume of production increased by 0.3 percent, while average daily production increased by 5.1 percent (July 1988 had 2 working days less than July 1987).

The cost of the production of output during the first 6 months fell by 1 percent against the level of January-June of last year. As a result of the ensuing fall of prime costs in industry as a whole, the savings of resources amounted to about R3 billion.

Prime costs of industrial output declined in all union republics and national economic complexes (except the fuel and energy complex).

Industry earned profits amounting to R65.6 billion, which is 8 percent above plan and 11 percent above last year's level, and the profits plan was fulfilled by all national economic complexes.

The indicators of activity by national economic **complexes, ministries, and departments** in January-July 1988 are as follows (in percentages) [Columns in the following table represent: Column A—Percentage fulfillment of contract commitments for output deliveries; Column B—Percentage of enterprises failing to fulfill contract commitments; Column C—Fulfillment of the profits plan (January-June, as published); Column D—Actual growth rate of volume of output (works, services)]:

	A	B	C	D
Fuel and Energy Complex	99.7	33	108.2	2.9
USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification	97.9	49	103.2	0.7
(Footnote) (Figures in columns A and B exclude electricity generating enterprises)				
USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry	99.93	17	111.0	1.1
USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry	100	Zero	105.4	8.2
USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry	99.8	34	117.4	3.6
Metallurgy Complex	99.3	32	109.1	3.2
USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy	99.0	39	111.5	3.7
USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy	99.7	22	105.7	2.4
Machine Building Complex	98.5	49	105.9	5.7
USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building	97.7	56	103.5	8.0
USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry	97.5	59	103.7	7.1
USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	98.5	51	107.1	8.4
USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry	98.7	41	102.0	4.3
USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems	98.5	39	105.7	9.1
USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry	99.3	52	114.2	3.2
Fuel and Energy Complex	99.7	33	108.2	2.9
USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification	97.9	49	103.2	0.7
USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building	98.7	45	99.4	3.6
USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building	98.9	65	111.1	9.3
Chemical Industry and Timber Complex	98.7	41	110.8	3.9
USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry	99.3	40	107.9	2.1
USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry	98.3	45	113.9	6.7
USSR Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers	98.2	38	112.3	2.7
USSR Ministry of the Medical and Microbiological Industry	99.7	18	104.8	6.9
USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry	98.4	44	112.6	4.4
Agro-Industrial Complex	99.7	11	107.5	2.1
USSR Gosagroprom	99.7	13	107.9	2.4
USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry	99.9	8	105.7	2.0
USSR Ministry of Grain Products	99.7	6	109.0	0.9
Social Complex (USSR Ministry of Light Industry)	99.4	19	109.8	4.5
Construction Industry Complex (USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry)	99.2	23	105.8	3.2

Data on industry's work in January-July 1988 for **union republics** (including industry under union jurisdiction) are cited below (in percentages) [Columns in the following table represent: Column A—Percentage fulfillment of contract commitments for output deliveries; Column B—Percentage of enterprises failing to fulfill contract commitments; Column C—Actual growth rate of volume of output (works, services)]:

	A	B	C
RSFSR	99.1	21	3.6
Ukrainian SSR	99.1	18	4.3
Belorussian SSR	99.94	6	6.3
Uzbek SSR	98.7	22	1.6
Kazakh SSR	99.4	13	4.0
Georgian SSR	99.2	14	3.0
Azerbaijan SSR	98.7	13	3.7
Lithuanian SSR	99.8	5	4.0
Moldavian SSR	99.3	20	5.1
Latvian SSR	99.6	15	4.1
Kirghiz SSR	99.3	20	7.6
Tajik SSR	99.4	24	5.1

	A	B	C
RSFSR	99.1	21	3.6
Ukrainian SSR	99.1	18	4.3
Armenian SSR	97.6	28	3.2
Turkmen SSR	99.2	13	6.8
Estonian SSR	99.7	9	2.3

Output quality. At industrial associations and enterprises operating in conditions of state acceptance of output, 7 percent of output, totaling R1.1 billion, was not accepted on first submission in July, and output definitively rejected in the period since the start of the year amounts to R47 million.

The work by sectors in national economic **complexes** is described by the following figures.

Fuel and Energy Complex [subhead]

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Electricity, billion kilowatt-hours	987	100.8	103
Oil (including gas condensate), million tonnes	365	101	100.7
Gas, billion cubic meters	443	102	106
Coal, million tonnes	455	103	102

Targets for the extraction and production of the most important types of fuel and energy resources were met. Additional extraction amounted to 4.4 million tonnes of oil including gas condensate, 10.6 billion cubic meters of gas, and 15 million tonnes of coal including 5.8 million tonnes of coking coal.

At the same time, the work by a series of associations within the complex was unsatisfactory. Since the start of the year, the deliveries shortfall by the "Varyegannefteqaz," "Azneft," "Stavropolneftegaz," "Kirgizneft," "Tadzhikneft," and "Sakhalinmorneftegaz" Production Associations under the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry has amounted to 457,000 tonnes of oil, while the "Astrakhangazprom" Production Association under the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry has met its target only 99.1 percent since the start of the year, and its deliveries shortfall amounts to 32 million cubic meters of gas.

There were five coal extracting associations under the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry which failed to cope with their January-July targets: "Stakhanovugol" (96 percent), "Antratsit" (98 percent), "Sovetskugol" (99 percent), "Shakhterskantratsit" (98 percent), and "Gruzugol" (99 percent); their deliveries shortfall since the start of the year amounts to 323,000 tonnes of coal. Enterprises under the Main Administration for Machine Building for the Coal Industry failed to meet their 7-month targets for the manufacture of basic types of mining and pit equipment, and specifically for the production of systems and mechanized roof jacks for mineral extraction (95 percent fulfillment), face-breaking combines (96 percent), tunneling combines (97 percent), belt and drag pit conveyers (96 percent), and a number of other products.

Unsatisfactory work by a series of enterprises prevented them from coping in full with contract commitments to the consumers. The total deliveries shortfall since the start of the year amounts to R82 million for the complex as a whole, including more than R32 million for the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry.

Metallurgy Complex [subhead]

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Steel, million tonnes	95.3	100.6	101
Rolled ferrous metal products (finished), million tonnes	67.3	101	103
Steel pipes, million tonnes	12.0	100.2	103
Iron ore, million tonnes	146	101	100.2

The metallurgy complex enterprises ensured the fulfillment of USSR Council of Ministers state orders for the basic types of ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy output, except zinc, in January-July this year.

At the same time, a lag still persists in the production of cold-rolled sheet metal, high-grade cold-drawn steel, and high-strength drilling and pump and compressor pipes, which prevents the total fulfillment of contract commitments to consumers (fulfillment amounted to 99.3 percent).

The shortfall in output deliveries by enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy increased in July by R65 million or 29 percent, while the proportion of enterprises failing to fulfill contract commitments increased from 28 percent in the first 6 months to 39 percent according to the results of work in the first 7 months. The greatest lag in output deliveries was allowed to build up at the Kommunarsk Metallurgical Combine (95.1 percent fulfillment of contract commitments), the "Zaporozhstal" Metallurgical Combine (97.7 percent), the Makeyevka Metallurgical Combine (95.1 percent), the Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Combine (98.5 percent), the Uzbek Metallurgical Plant (87.2 percent), the Yenakiyevo Metallurgical Plant (94.9 percent), and the "Dneprospetsstal" Electrometallurgy Plant (93 percent).

Machine Building Complex [subhead]

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Turbine generators, million kilowatts	7.4	102	108
Large electric machines, thousands	13.7	95	97
Special, specialized, and aggregate metal-cutting machine tools, thousands	28.2	99	96
Metal cutting machine tools, with digital program control, thousands	12.7	101	103
Forging and pressing machines, with digital program control, thousands	1.2	114	125
Instruments, automation equipment, and spare parts, billion rubles	3.1	101	107
Medical equipment and spare parts, million rubles	555	106	108
Computer equipment and spare parts, billion rubles	3.5	104	114
Milling equipment million rubles	132	95	117
Petroleum apparatus, million rubles	156	97	107
Chemical equipment and spare parts, million rubles	599	98	109
Tractors, million horsepower	30.3	97	100.4
Agricultural machines, billion rubles	2.4	99.2	99
Machines and equipment for stockraising and feed production, billion rubles	1.7	98	100.7
Excavators, thousands	24.0	95	102

The shortfall incurred by ministries within the machine building complex as regards a number of articles within the range covered by state orders increased according to results of work in the first 7 months compared with the first 6 months of this year. For example, plan fulfillment was only 91 percent for the manufacture of AC electric motors by the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, 92 percent for the manufacture of special, specialized, and aggregate metal cutting machine tools by the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, 82 percent for the manufacture of computer and control systems by the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and 94 percent for the manufacture of excavators by the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building.

The greatest lag in meeting state order targets was allowed to build up by the "Kirgizelektromash" Production Association in AC electric motors, the "Kharkovskiy Traktornyy Zavod Imeni S. Ordzhonikidze" Production Association in tractors, and the "Belotserkovselmash" and "Buryatfermmash" Production Associations in machines and equipment for stockraising and feed production. Deliveries to consumers were not completed on schedule and in full as regards metal cutting machine tools with digital program control from the Kharkov Machine Tool Building Production Association and excavators from the "Tyazheks" Production Association in Voronezh.

The total deliveries shortfall by the complex as a whole since the start of the years amounts to R829 million.

Chemical Industry and Timber Complex [subhead]

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Mineral fertilizers (in 100-percent nutrient equivalent), million tonnes	21.8	102	104
Chemical plant protection agents (in 100-percent active ingredient equivalent) thousand tonnes	194	101	98
Sulfuric acid, million tonnes	17.0	98	103
Caustic soda, million tonnes	2.0	97	102
Chemical fibers and yarns, thousand tonnes	913	102	103
Tires for trucks, millions	16.0	99.4	102
Tires for cars, millions	13.8	103	107
Tires for agricultural machines, millions	6.8	100.2	97

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Mineral fertilizers (in 100-percent nutrient equivalent), million tonnes	21.8	102	104
Chemical plant protection agents (in 100-percent active ingredient equivalent) thousand tonnes	194	101	98
Medicines, billion rubles	2.0	101	105
Commercial timber, (excluding small timber procurements), million trimmed cubic meters	179	100.6	100.2
Paper, million tonnes	3.7	101	102
of which newsprint, billion square meters	21.3	102	103

Production in excess of set targets in January-July this year included 0.3 million tonnes of mineral fertilizers, 21,000 tonnes of chemical fibers and yarns, 150 million meters of magnetic tape, 344,000 tires for cars, 9,000 tonnes of microbiological protein feed, 1.1 million trimmed cubic meters of commercial timber, 1.6 million cubic meters of lumber, 8.1 million standard cubic meters of hard wood fiber sheets, and 42,000 tonnes of paper.

There was an increase in the manufacture of fiberglass-reinforced plastics and products made from these, advanced types of paints and varnishes, materials produced by using radiation technology, synthetic fibers and yarns, radial tires, and lightweight newsprint.

At the same time, the fulfillment of state orders was not ensured as regards the manufacture of the most important types of basic chemical industry products, polyethylene, polystyrene, PVC, thermoplastic pipes and pipeline components, wood-chip and cement-chip sheets, plywood, and other products.

Consequently, the shortfall in output deliveries to consumers by the complex's enterprises as a whole amounted to R739 million. The enterprises which allowed a substantial lag to build up in the performance of their contract commitments include the Sivashskoye Aniline Dye Plant (57.2 percent) and the "Khimprom" Production Association in Sayany (87.9 percent) under the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry; the Chilisayskiy Phosphorite Mine (27.8 percent) and the Turkmen Nitrogenous Fertilizers Plant (34.7 percent) under the USSR Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers; and the Yerevan Tires Plant (88.2 percent) and the Astrakhan and Gorlovka Rubber Footwear Plants (79.6 percent and 70.4 percent respectively) under the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry.

All major timber procurement associations for the production of commercial timber under the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry lagged substantially behind their planned volumes for July (deliveries fell short of the January-July target by 0.9 million cubic meters). There was a significant increase in the shortfall incurred since the start of the year by the ministry's enterprises as regards the manufacture of wood-chip sheets, bringing it up to 35,500 standard cubic meters of which 28,000 standard cubic meters were not produced in July. Last month's work performance was particularly poor at the "Zabaykalles" Association (57 percent fulfillment of target), the "Sverdlesprom" Association (68 percent), the "Arkhangelsklesprom" Association (73 percent), and the "Vologdalesprom" Association (79 percent). These associations alone failed to deliver about 17,000 standard cubic meters of sheets.

The planned volumes for the production of paper and cardboard were not reached in July. The greatest lag in paper manufacture was allowed to build up at the Syktyvkar Timber Industry Complex (production shortfall of 5,300 tonnes being 13 percent of the month's target) and the Kama Pulp and Paper Combine (1,900 tonnes being 8 percent); the laggards in cardboard production were the Amur Pulp and Cardboard Combine (3,700 tonnes being 25 percent), the Bratsk timber industry complex (2,400 tonnes being 12 percent), and the Arkhangelsk Pulp and Paper Combine (3,200 tonnes being 9 percent).

The target set for July for the manufacture of commercial pulp was not met (99.3 percent).

Industry Within the Construction Industry Complex [subhead]

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Cement, million tonnes	81.3	102	102
Asbestos cement sheet (shingles), billion standard tiles	5.2	100.8	100.9
Asbestos cement pipes and sleeves, thousand km standard pipes	47.9	100.9	101
Soft roofing and insulation materials, million square meters	1,178	100.8	102

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Cement, million tonnes	81.3	102	102
Asbestos cement sheet (shingles), billion standard tiles	5.2	100.8	100.9
Window glass, million square meters	161	99	100.3

Targets for the production of clinker cement produced by the "dry" method and sectional buildings (modules) made of lightweight metal components were safely met in January-July. At the same time, the 7-month targets were not met by enterprises manufacturing building bricks (99.3 percent), ferroconcrete structures and articles (99 percent), and ferroconcrete force pipes (96 percent). Glass production continued to lag behind plan targets. Some 40 percent of enterprises producing window glass failed to reach their planned levels. The situation is particularly adverse at the Gusev Glass Plant and the "Avtosteklo" Plant in Konstantinovsk. Since the start of the year these two enterprises have failed to deliver more than 1 million square meters of output.

The shortfall of output deliveries to consumers by enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry as a whole since the start of the year amounts to a total of R26.6 million.

The production of basic **foodstuffs** is characterized by the following figures:

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Meat (from state raw material resources), million tonnes	6.4	106	104
Sausage products, million tonnes	2.2	103	103
Butter, million tonnes	1.1	107	106
Wholemilk products, in milk equivalent (from state raw material resources), million tonnes	19.5	104	103
Full-fat cheese, thousand tonnes	538	103	104
Meat (from state raw material resources), million tonnes	6.4	106	104
Sausage products, million tonnes	2.2	103	103
Edible fish products (including canned fish) million tonnes	3.4	107	102
Margarine products, thousand tonnes	891	101	102
Vegetable oil, million tonnes	1.9	103	108
Confectionery products million tonnes	2.8	103	104
Canned food, billion standard cans	9.0	107	107
including canned fruit and vegetables	5.7	108	109
of which, fruit juices	2.0	115	114
Mineral water, million dekaliters	102	104	109
Nonalcoholic beverages, million dekaliters	392	106	116

As output increases, the trade network is supplied with more stockraising products. The quantity of meat and dairy products shipped to supply the population in January-July was 4 percent more than in the corresponding period of 1987. Sales of these products to the population increased at faster pace than the average for the country in the Dagestan ASSR, Stavropol and Krasnoyarsk Krays, and Kalinin, Smolensk, Belgorod, Saratov, Chita, Volyn, Rovno, Ternopol, Minsk, Brest, Alma-Ata, Kzyl-Orda, and Tselinograd Oblasts. Sales of meat and dairy products also increased in the Buryat ASSR, in Pskov, Kirov, Lipetsk, Volgograd, Kemerovo, Tomsk, Zhitomir, Khmelnitskiy, Gomel, and Chimkent Oblasts, and a number of other regions in the country.

The fulfillment of targets for the production of **consumer goods** is characterized by the following figures:

	Actual in Jan-Jul 1988	Percentage target fulfillment	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Cotton fabrics, billion square meters	4.7	100.6	102
Linen, hemp, and jute fabrics, million square meters	556	100.6	100.8
Woolen fabrics, million square meters	412	100.6	102
Silk fabrics, billion square meters	1.2	102	105
Knitted articles, billions	1.1	100.4	102
Hosiery, billion pairs	1.2	101	103
Footwear, million pairs	475	100.2	100.5
of which children's	214	102	100
Television sets, millions	5.5	98	109
of which, color sets	3.2	99	131
Refrigerators and freezers, millions	3.6	100.1	105
Radio receivers, millions	4.6	92	98
Tape recorders, millions	3.2	94	114
Video recorders, thousands	37.4	101	191
Sewing machines, thousands	914	89	107
of which "zigzag" type	581	100.2	105
Washing machines, millions	3.5	95	106
Vacuum cleaners, millions	2.8	99.1	109
Furniture, billion rubles	5.4	102	107
Motorcycles, thousands	561	99.2	100.6
Bicycles (excluding children's), millions	3.3	99.2	100.6
Automobiles, thousands	761	100.4	98
Clocks and watches, millions	42.3	100.6	105
Chinaware and earthenware, million rubles	611	102	106
Wallpaper, million standard lengths	322	102	109
Disposable paper products, million rubles	470	104	112
Elements and batteries for electrical household articles millions	567	99.4	106

Between January and July this year **consumer goods production** amounted to R190 billion in retail prices, this being R10.5 billion (or 6 percent) more than in the corresponding period of last year. The production of nonfood goods (excluding light industry goods) for sale to the population increased by 8 percent during this period.

At the same time, 17 percent of enterprises failed to cope with the January-July targets for the manufacture of nonfood goods (excluding light industry goods). The proportion of such enterprises is even higher in some ministries: Every other enterprise under the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, 31-35 percent of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, and 27 percent of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building.

Output was less than planned in terms of radio receivers (398,000), television sets (123,000), tape recorders (207,000), washing machines (182,000), motorcycles (4,600), bicycles excluding children's (25,000), and sewing machines (115,000).

The quality of domestic appliances remains poor. During the first 6 months consumers complained about 1,314,000 television sets including 883,000 color sets, 338,000 radio receivers, 594,000 tape recorders, 169,000 refrigerators, and 172,000 washing machines.

The total manufacture of **light industry goods** at enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Light Industry increased by 7 percent compared with the corresponding period of last year. The January-July targets were met in terms of the basic products ranges. At the same time, 334

of the ministry's enterprises and associations (19 percent) failed to ensure performance of contract commitments to consumers as regards the manufacture of specific products. Their deliveries shortfall amounts to R326 million. There have been no significant changes as regards the renewal of the range of manufactured output and the improvement of its quality. A sizeable proportion of manufactured output does not enjoy consumer demand.

During July the ministry's enterprises failed to cope with their targets for the manufacture of cotton and silk textiles, knitwear, and footwear.

Agricultural

Paper Publishes Current Weather, Crop Reports

Late July

PM1708154388 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Aug 88 p 2

[Agrometeorologist A. Grishina report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] During the last 10 days of July, the weather was warmer than usual over the greater part of the Northwest, Central, Volga-Vyatka, and Northern Regions and in the northeastern half of the Urals Region. The average air temperature was 2-4 degrees above the perennial average. It has now become cooler in a number of places. The rain mainly ceased in the Ukraine, Moldavia, the North Caucasus, and the Central and Central Chernozem Regions; and the conditions for harvesting grain crops and procuring feed improved.

The conditions for harvesting grain crops and procuring feed were also favorable in the Volga and Volga-Vyatka Regions, in the south and west of the Urals Region, the south of the Northern Region, and eastern Belorussia.

Corn has finished forming leaves. Mass flowering of cobs is taking place south of a line linking Riga, Pskov, Moscow, Saransk, and Uralsk. Grain has attained milky ripeness in the North Caucasus, the extreme east of the Ukraine, and the south of Voronezh Oblast—which is 10-15 days ahead of the perennial average. Sunflowers have continued flowering, and early crops have attained the ripening phase in Stavropol Kray and Kherson and Cherkassy Oblasts. Given the good agrometeorological conditions on beet plantations, intensive growth of root crops continued.

Hot weather predominated in the farming areas of West Siberia and the northern half of Kazakhstan, and rain fell. During the 10-day period the rain totaled 11-30 mm, and in places more than 30 mm. The grain was swelling on early spring grain crops. Waxy and full ripeness was noted on them in Uralsk and Aktyubinsk Oblasts. The rain improved conditions for grain swelling.

Cool weather prevailed in East Siberia with heavy downpours. The flowering phase was observed on early spring grain crops, with milky ripeness in the extreme south.

In the Far East the primarily dry and warm weather created favorable conditions for procuring feed.

It grew warmer in the Central Asian republics in the second half of the 10-day period. Good rain fell in the majority of Kirghiz rayons, but little rain in northern Tajikistan and in Krasnovodsk Oblast. Cotton bolls continued to form. They began opening in the extreme south.

Early August

PM1808092588 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Aug 88 p 1

[Agrometeorologist A. Grishina report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The weather was predominantly cool and rainy in the Baltic Region, Belorussia, the northern half of the Ukraine, the Northwest Region, and the western half of the Central and Central Chernozem Regions in the first 10 days of August. This complicated the harvesting of grain crops and feed procurement. Precipitation was negligible in Moldavia, the southeastern oblasts of the Ukraine, the North Caucasus Region, the southern half of the Volga Region, Kuybyshev Oblast, and the Urals Region.

Over most of the European USSR early spring grain has ripened fully. Corn has been observed in the milky stage of ripeness, and in parts of the Ukraine and the North Caucasus the waxy stage has been noted. Crop development is 2-3 weeks ahead of the perennial average. Conditions were favorable for the ripening of grain over most of the territory, and the crops' moisture supply was adequate. Sugar beets continued to grow. In the main beet regions root crops gained 50-80 grams over the 10 days. In southern oblasts sunflower seeds entered the biological stage of ripeness. The diameter of the heads ranged from 15-18 cm to 20-30 cm.

In the Transcaucasian republics the weather was predominantly cool. Rainfall was recorded.

It was warm in Western Siberia. Later it became cool and there was rain. It has become warmer recently over most of Kazakhstan, and considerable rainfall was recorded in the east. The grain has finished ripening on early spring grain crops, and in a number of places they are in the waxy stage of ripeness. Heavy rain has caused crops to lodge in a number of regions. Corn has begun forming heads, and on early crops the panicles are flowering.

Warm weather prevailed in the arable regions of eastern Siberia and the Transbaykal. It was unusually hot in the Far East. The daytime air temperature reached 33-37

degrees. At the end of the 10 days it became somewhat cooler. In eastern Amur Oblast, most rayons in Khabarovsk Kray, and in northern Maritime Kray there was heavy rain.

The weather is near to normal in the Central Asian republics. Conditions were favorable for cotton formation. By 10 August each plant had formed an average of 5-7 bolls; while in Ashkhabad, Mary, Kulyab, Khorezm, and Surkhan-Darya Oblasts the figure was 8-10 bolls each. This is more than last year's figure. In the second half of the previous 10-day period the first bolls began to open in the early crops, which is 10-15 days earlier than the perennial average.

Jan-Jul 'State of Stockraising' Statistics Cited

PM1808081788 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 33, Aug 88 (Signed to Press 11 Aug 88) p 3

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "Stockraising on Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes"]

[Text] The editorial office has received USSR State Committee for Statistics figures for the state of stockraising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in January-July 1988. We offer these statistical data for our readers' familiarization:

I. Production of Livestock Products [subhead]

The country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes had the following results for the production of livestock products in January-July this year:

Indicators	Jan-Jul 1988	Jan-Jul 1988 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter, live weight), thousand tonnes	11,965	104
Gross milk yield thousand tonnes	52,793	104
Average milk yield per cow, kg	1,753	105
Hen eggs, millions	36,693	104
Average egg yield of laying hens, units	137	103

Meat production increased by 453,000 tonnes in comparison with the same period last year. Meat production increased on farms in many union republics, except Lithuania, Moldavia, Tajikistan, and Estonia. The greatest increase in meat production in the RSFSR was achieved by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Murmansk, Pskov, Bryansk, Kaluga, Smolensk, Kursk, Volgograd, Saratov, Chita, Amur, and Magadan Oblasts and the Karelian, Kalmyk, Kabardino-Balkar, Chechen-Ingush, Bashkir, and Buryat ASSR's. Meat production declined on farms in Astrakhan and Orenburg Oblasts, Krasnodar and Maritime Krays, and the Tatar, Tuva, and Yakut ASSR's.

The gross milk yield in January-July 1988 was 2.2 million tonnes more than in January-July last year. An increase in milk production was secured by stock unit workers in most union republics except Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia.

The greatest increase in milk production in the RSFSR was achieved by farms in Ivanovo, Orel, Ryazan, Rostov, and Tomsk Oblasts and the Kalmyk ASSR. Milk production declined on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Arkhangelsk, Vologda, Kirov, Kuybyshev, Ulyanovsk, Orenburg, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts, the Maritime Kray, and the Karelian, Udmurt, and Tuva ASSR's.

Egg production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the first 7 months of 1988 increased by 1.5 billion compared with the same period last year. An increase in egg production was achieved on farms in almost all union republics, except Armenia and Turkmenistan.

II. Purchases of Livestock Products on All Categories of Farms [subhead]

Types of Product	Purchased During Jan-Jul 1988	Purchased Jan-Jul 1988 as Percentage of Jan-Jul 1987
Livestock and poultry (live weight), thousand tonnes	12,485	104
Milk, thousand tonnes	47,285	105
Eggs, billions	34.4	103

The volume of livestock and poultry sales to the state in the country in the first 7 months of 1988 increased by 520,000 tonnes in comparison with the same period last year. Livestock and poultry sales declined on farms in Georgia and Estonia (by 3 percent), Tajikistan and Armenia (by 2 percent), and Moldavia (by 1 percent).

Livestock and poultry purchases in the RSFSR declined on farms in Astrakhan and Orenburg Oblasts, Krasnodar Kray, and the Tatar, Tuva, and Yakut ASSR's.

Purchases of milk and dairy products increased by 2,122,000 tonnes during the first 7 months of 1988. Farms in all union republics except Estonia, Armenia, and Tajikistan increased milk and dairy product sales to the state. Milk sales in the RSFSR declined on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Arkhangelsk, Kuybyshev, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts, the Udmurt ASSR, Vologda and Kirov Oblasts, the Komi ASSR, the Maritime Kray, and Ulyanovsk, Yaroslavl, and some other oblasts.

Milk purchases increased considerably on farms in Murmansk Oblast, the Kalmyk ASSR, Rostov, Ivanovo, Penza, Irkutsk, Chita, Orel, Ryazan, Gorkiy, Kursk, Kurgan, Volgograd, Bryansk, Tomsk, Tyumen, and a number of other oblasts.

Egg sales to the state in January-July 1988 increased by 966 million in comparison with the same period last year. Egg sales to the state increased on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all union republics except Armenia, Latvia, and the Ukraine.

III. Production and Purchases of Livestock Products by Union Republic [subhead]

Jan-Jul 1988 as Percentage of Jan-Jul 1987

	Production				Purchases	
	Meat	Milk	Eggs	Livestock and Poultry	Milk	Eggs
USSR	104	104	104	104	105	103
RSFSR	105	103	105	105	103	104
of which the non-Chernozem Zone	105	103	105	106	102	104
Ukrainian SSR	102	107	100.7	102	108	99.9
Belorussian SSR	106	106	104	107	107	102
Uzbek SSR	108	105	112	102	104	111
Kazakh SSR	110	103	101	110	104	102
Georgian SSR	114	99	100.2	97	101	100.6
Azerbaijan SSR	100.8	99.7	107	102	102	104
Lithuanian SSR	99.7	103	110	99.9	102	108
Moldavian SSR	97	109	105	99	110	103
Latvian SSR	102	101	101	102	100.7	99.8
Kirghiz SSR	103	102	108	113	102	107
Tajik SSR	98	101	110	98	99.4	113
Armenian SSR	100.5	98	96	98	99.5	97
Turkmen SSR	104	106	99	105	103	100.3
Estonian SSR	96	101	108	97	99.0	103

IV. Livestock Numbers [subhead]

As of 1 August 1988, there were 97 million head of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhozes—1.6 million fewer that at the same date last year. There were 28.8 million cows, being 396,000 fewer than at 1 August last year. The pig population reached 59.8 million, and sheep and goats numbered 140.6 million. The number of poultry increased by 6.9 million to reach 809.5 million.

Feed procurement continues on farms everywhere in the country. The first mowing of grasses was carried out on 66.4 million hectares as of 8 August. Some 60 million tonnes of hay were laid in (96 percent of the level reached at that date last year). Some 68.5 million tonnes of haylage and 24.7 million tonnes of silage were also laid in, and 3.3 million tonnes of grass meal were produced. The total quantity of feeds procured amounted to 64.1 million tonnes of feed units, this being 103 percent of last year's level. The amount per standard head of livestock is 7.4 quintals of feed units, which is 3 percent more than at the same date last year.